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The quest for modern leadership
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30p EVERY WEEKDAY

fantasy league:

British literary world pays tribute as Iris Murdoch dies


Murdoch: won Booker

By Dalya Alberge and Claudia Joseph

TRIBUTES poured in last night for Iris Murdoch, who died yesterday afternoon after a long struggle against Alzheimer's disease. After entering a nursing home a fortnight ago, she had lost the will to eat and drink. Her husband, John Bayley, 73, was at her side when she died.

Dame Iris, 79, will be remembered as a novelist of ideas, a philosopher who wrote for the people beyond the senior common room. She won the Booker Prize for *The Sea, The Sea* and was put forward for a Nobel Prize for Literature. A prolific writer, she published 27 novels.

She married John Bayley, the literary critic, when 37. They met when he was a tutor at St Antony's College, Oxford, and she a don at nearby St Anne's. He fell in love at first sight as she bicycled "slowly and laboriously" past his window.

Mr Bayley said: "I was so happy that she was happy in a wonderful home, a nursing home. They were extremely good to her. But she'd only been there a fortnight. She had been growing weaker and weaker. But it was such a painless death and I was with her. It was expected, but not as soon as this."

Some of Britain's leading writers were among those offering tributes to Iris Murdoch, the woman and the novelist.

Josephine Hart, the novelist and a close friend since 1987, said: "As a person, Iris was the most graceful human being I've met in my life. She had the deepest respect for every other individual person. You could see it with everyone, from small children who she'd treat so calmly, as if listening to a philosopher." She added: "One of the reasons that the books will survive and remain so important is that she led us down the labyrinth of our own mind. Of course, she was unbelievably clever and witty. Her writing had a great moral power. You learnt in reading her books so much about yourself. She made you go inside yourself."

Another friend, John Grigg, the historian, said: "Iris is one of those rare authors who have created a fictional world so vivid and strange that an adjective based on her name has entered the language. But she was even more rare in being a person who combined brilliant intellect and imagination with a marvellously warm and in many ways simple heart."

The novelist Margaret Drabble called Murdoch a "completely magical writer" who had an "extraordinary" narrative powers that "gave me such delight and pleasure". Malcolm Bradbury, who last saw her a year ago, said: "I have known her for a long time and she was brilliant. She was one of the greatest British writers of the second half of the 20th century. It's a real loss to English literature made that much sadder by her Alzheimer's."

Alain de Botton said that for the younger generation, Murdoch's books "evoke a time for people who weren't there" and will remain classics into the next century.

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Bill Clinton, with former Presidents Carter, Ford and Bush, walks alongside President Chirac of France. Tony Blair is among other mourners at the top left

'The fact that we all came here to signal our commitment to real peace convinced me that I must try to achieve a new beginning, to broaden the efforts for peace and make it real'
Benjamin Netanyahu, Israeli Prime Minister

Homage to Hussein

Funeral brings enemies together

By Christopher Walker in Amman

IN DEATH as in life, King Hussein of Jordan yesterday acted as a bridge-builder as his funeral brought together sworn enemies who united in paying homage to one of the great peacemakers of the 20th century.

The outcome of the open and secret exchanges between about 50 heads of state and government will only become clear in the coming weeks and months. But all present were agreed that as a gathering of world leaders, the funeral was unique, overshadowing the final rites for Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister assassinated in 1995, or those in 1981 for the Egyptian leader, Anwar Sadat, who suffered the same fate because of his backing for peace between Jews and Arabs.

For the first time in the 50-year history of the Jewish state, an Israeli delegation attended the same ceremony as President Assad of Syria, a last-minute unannounced guest. Also present were delegations from Iraq and Libya, countries which remain technically at war with Israel, and Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, whose 1993 peace deal with Israel is close to collapse.

Although Binyamin Netanyahu, the hardline Israeli Prime Minister, did not come face-to-face with the wily Syrian leader, he said later: "The fact that we all came here to signal our commitment to real peace convinced me that I must try to achieve a new beginning, to broaden the efforts for peace and make it real."

Mr Netanyahu said that as well as speaking to many Jordanians, he had met representatives of unnamed Arab states. He, like other leaders who walked behind the coffin under leaden skies, said he saw Mr Assad's surprise visit — in the knowledge that Israel would be sending a large delegation of 23 — as a signal of his renewed interest in peace.

After speaking at length to King Abdullah II, Jordan's courteous and ramrod-backed new monarch, the Israeli Prime Minister said: "I see Abdullah as a very open and warm-hearted person, someone who strongly resembles his father, and I have no doubt he will follow in his father's footsteps."

The two are due to meet for substantive talks soon.

No less remarkable than the unprecedented Israeli-Arab presence was the mingling of President Clinton and three former US Presidents, Jimmy Carter, George Bush and Gerald Ford, in a gathering which included a Vice-President of Iraq, the son of Libya's maverick leader, Colonel Gaddafi, and the leader of Sudan — all countries attacked by US planes or missiles in recent years.

Notable by her absence was Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, who instead sent her number three, Thomas Pickering. US officials said Ms Albright had decided against attending because of the strict Islamic custom governing the conduct of the funeral, which kept men and women separate and prevented all but a few women, permitted for obscure protocol reasons, from paying their respects beside the men at the late King's flag-draped coffin.

During the five-hour ceremony, the coffin had been driven through the rain-lashed streets of Amman, lined with weeping Jordanians, some beating their faces and chests in grief.

Queen Noor, the late King's elegant fourth wife, and other female members of the Royal Family, including his six daughters from four marriages, stayed at his private residence, Bab al-Salam (Gate of Peace), in keeping with Islamic tradition. Jordanians who saw the Queen said she looked distraught.

Wearing traditional white headscarves of mourning, the women huddled together on the steps to bid farewell as the motorcade carrying the coffin — shadowed by three helicopters — raced through the streets on a 12-mile journey to the King's final resting place. That was the Hashemite burial site close to the hilltop palace of Raghadan which overlooks Amman. The sprawling capital has grown out of all recognition since Hussein ascended the throne in 1952.

Because of security concerns that Iraqi agents might try to disrupt proceedings because of the presence of Mr Clinton and Tony Blair, the British Prime Minister — the twin architects of December's bombing campaign against Baghdad — the vehicles sped through the streets. There were chaotic scenes as crowds lining the route broke the ineffective security cordons to chase the procession in an expression of grief.

The funeral was itself a mirror of some of the deep social divisions that King Abdullah will have to repair. The poor

Continued on page 3, col 7

Family united, page 2
Leading article, page 17


"Hi honey, I'm home"

06
9 770140 046220

Till shuts on British rebate

From Charles Bremner in Brussels

BRITAIN'S special cash-back deal from the Brussels budget came under fire from all 14 other member states yesterday as ministers failed to agree on spending reforms. It set the scene for a crisis summit in Berlin next month.

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, won no converts when he pressed the Government's case for retaining the annual £2 billion rebate at a session of finance ministers that was supposed to set guidelines for reorganising farm spending.

However, Britain's lonely stand on its 14-year-old rebate was eclipsed by the disarray among all EU governments on all the key elements of the six-year spending package that is due to be settled by April.

"We are heading for the standard EU crisis," said a French diplomat after his team had clashed with the Germans over plans for cutting farm spending, which consumes half the EU's annual £65 billion budget. Tony Blair and the other leaders are supposed to tie up the budget deal in Berlin on March 25.

The only common cause among bickering ministers was opposition to the British rebate. "It is inconceivable that the British rebate can go on operating in the old way," said Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the French minister.

Output falls

Manufacturing output fell in December, with factory gate prices falls recorded for the first time..........Page 25

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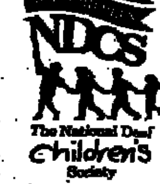
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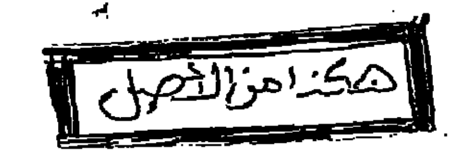
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هكذا في الأصل

KING HUSSEIN'S FUNERAL: GRAVESIDE RECONCILIATION

Embrace by Assad signals thaw in relations

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN AMMAN

SYRIA

SYRIA'S President Assad yesterday made a rare foray abroad to pay his last respects to a man regarded as his old enemy.

Although the "Fox of Damascus" appeared to go out of his way to avoid being close to any of the Israelis scattered through the scrimmage that took place outside Amman's elegant Raghadan Palace, his mere presence and the body language of his meeting with Jordan's new leader, King Abdullah II, signalled a thaw in Syrian-Jordanian relations.

After the burial of the late monarch, Mr Assad was symbolically the first in line of all the foreign dignitaries to offer his condolences to King Abdullah. Their embrace was widely remarked upon, as was Mr Assad's visible emotion when he halted earlier before the flag-draped coffin of the late King and appeared to say a prayer.

"There was a strong hint here, and with other meetings at the funeral, that a number of Arab countries at loggerheads with tiny Jordan are now prepared to turn over a new leaf with its new leadership," a senior Arab diplomat said. "The strong delegation from Kuwait's ruling al-Sabah family showed us all that the rift stretching back to the [1991] Gulf crisis is over."

Relations between Syria and Jordan were strained for years by Mr Assad's suspicion that King Hussein maintained secret ties with Israel, while the King was wary of Syria's territorial ambitions and mindful that during the 1970 Black September Palestinian uprising, Syrian tanks had only been deterred by Israel troop manoeuvres from crossing into Jordan.

When Jordan decided to go it alone without Syria and signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1994, President Assad fumed, charging that Jordan had committed a "grave offence against united Arab efforts to reach a comprehensive peace".

King Hussein and President Assad never agreed on anything because the monarch always suspected that the Syrian leader and former Air Force Commander wanted to rule over a "greater Syria", comprising of Syria proper, Lebanon, Palestine and Transjordan. For his part, Mr Assad never forgave the late Jordanian monarch for making a secret visit to Tel Aviv in 1973 to warn Israeli leaders of the imminent Syrian-Egyptian military offensive.

But the Syrian leader did telephone the ailing King on January 19 to inquire about his health. He flew in for yesterday's funeral without notice after postponing until tomorrow a nationwide referendum that had been scheduled for yesterday to reconfirm his position as President.

There was diplomatic speculation that the graveside reconciliation could have two outcomes. "Either it could signal that Assad wants Jordan's new leader to cool his ties with Israel as a price of renewed friendship with Damascus, or Abdullah could act as a useful go-between in a bid to restart Israel-Syria peace talks if Labour wins Israel's May general election," one envoy said.

In another diplomatic surprise during the marathon ceremony, the head of a Damascus-based radical Palestinian group that rejected peace with Israel as negotiated by the PLO, shook hands with President Weizman of Israel and hailed him as a man of peace.

Nayef Hawatmeh, the veteran general secretary of the Marxist Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, approached Mr Weizman at the palace while waiting for the funeral to begin. According to the President's spokesman, he told him: "You are a man of peace who fought for many years to advance peace in the Middle East. We recognise this and, God willing, peace will come to our region."

Mr Weizman said in response that he hoped that Syria and Lebanon, which are still technically at war with Israel, would join the peace process. Israel radio later reported that Ariel Sharon, the Foreign Minister, had reprimanded Mr Weizman for the exchange. The DFLP was responsible for a number of terrorist attacks inside Israel including the deaths of 24 schoolchildren and a soldier in the northern town of Maalot in 1974.

Since rejecting the peace deal, Mr Hawatmeh, 62, who has links with another renegade Palestinian leader, Georges Habash, has called for a two-state solution, but objects to Yassir Arafat's 1993 deal, claiming that it falls short of the aspirations of the Palestinian people.

The sheer weight of the US delegation led by President Clinton, and including three former Presidents and the head of the World Bank, was seen as evidence that the West plans to back up its moral support for the new Jordanian ruler with much needed aid for his battered economy. As a start, Mr Clinton has already pledged to rush through a new $300 million (£187.5 million) aid package.

Discreet diplomacy took place in Amman's heavily guarded luxury hotels and chancelleries before and after the funeral.

From another potential conflict zone, Turkey's President Demirel was in attendance along with his Cypriot counterpart, President Clerides, 30 per cent of whose country is occupied by Turkish troops.

> ‘A number of Arab countries are prepared to turn over a new leaf’

RON EDMONDS / AP



President Assad of Syria, right, arrives yesterday at the Raghadan Palace in Amman with Farouk al-Sharaa, Syria's Foreign Minister



President Yeltsin arrives for the funeral before cutting short his visit, which was made against medical advice

MENAHEM KAHANA / AFP

Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's Prime Minister, pays his respects to King Abdullah II

Hague slips back to third place

BY MARK INGLEFIELD
POLITICAL REPORTER

BRITAIN

THE presence of three former American Presidents at King Hussein's funeral yesterday left many wondering why no former British Prime Ministers were among the mourners.

But this was not the only apparent breach of protocol. Onlookers were surprised to see William Hague reduced to following Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, when the British party attended King Hussein's coffin. Normally, the Leader of Her Majesty's Opposition walks alongside or behind the Prime Minister at official events, with the leader of the smaller party trailing behind.

Downing Street officials were adamant this was not a snub to Mr Hague. "We had no involvement in the arrangements," they said. A spokesman for Mr Hague was keen to play down the Tory leader's apparent relegation in status. "Mr Ashdown always tries to keep as close to Mr Blair as he can," he said.

It was harder to say why Lord Callaghan, Sir Edward Heath, Baroness Thatcher or John Major were were absent from the event, which attracted more than 30 national leaders and royalty from 14 countries. All the former British leaders had been friendly with the former monarch during his 47-year reign. Lady Thatcher and John Major had relied heavily on his support during many crises in the Middle East, including the Gulf War.

Downing Street sources said that, as far as they were aware, none of the former Prime Ministers asked if they could attend the funeral. Lady Thatcher will pay her respects to the King tomorrow morning by signing a book of condolence at the Jordanian Embassy in London.

This was probably a wise move. In accordance with Islamic custom she, along with Queen Noor, Hillary Clinton and other female dignitaries would have been allowed a limited role in the ceremony.

Sir Edward Heath's office, when told of Lady Thatcher's visit to the embassy, said he would do the same thing the next time he was in London. Mr Major and Lord Callaghan, the former Labour Prime Minister, are expected to follow suit.

Downing Street would not disclose how many were among Mr Blair's party.

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Time running out for elder statesmen on Arab stage

The Jordan monarch's death has focused attention on other leaders' health, writes **Christopher Walker**

The funeral of King Hussein provided a graphic reminder of the mortality of most of the remaining Arab heads of state — and signalled that the Arab world is poised for a sweeping change of guard. "It is no secret that most rulers of the 20 Arab nations are elder statesmen who have ruled for a long period of time, and if an Arab summit is held five years from now most of them will not be there," noted Fahed al-Fanek, Jordan's leading columnist.

The question is whether the younger generation poised to take over will attempt to transform the fundamentals of how the Arab world is governed, or simply prove to be new faces in control of unchanged, repressive political machines.

Unlike Jordan, where the transfer of power from the royal father, 63, to his eldest, 37-year-old son passed remarkably smoothly, in many Arab League countries the path of succession remains fraught with danger. "The leaders of the Middle East are ageing," Taher Masri, the former Jordanian Prime Minister, told the *Jordan Times*. "Change could come from within, with a new spirit to liberalise the regimes, bringing more democracy and relying more on state institutions than their predecessors."

In Saudi Arabia, over recent years threatened from within by a growing number of Islamic extremists, the transition has begun. King Fahd, 76, is seriously ill, hardly able to walk, and yesterday sent his half-brother and designated but elderly heir, Crown Prince Abdullah, to represent him.

By contrast, in two other key Arab states, Egypt and neighbouring Libya, the succession remains uncertain. The Libyan dictator Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, 56, in power since a 1969 coup, is also reported by intelligence sources to be in indifferent health. Significantly, he dispatched his eldest son to Amman last month to congratulate Abdullah when King Hussein named him heir apparent on January 25, signalling a possible attempt to keep the leadership in the family. In Egypt, although President Mubarak's smooth 1981 takeover from the assassinated Anwar Sadat was helped because he was Vice-President, he has never named a deputy — fearing a possible rival centre of power.

In Syria and the recently formed Palestinian Authority, the future also remains open to serious doubt with the chances of instability high. Both Syria's President Assad and Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, will turn 70 this year, and each has recently demonstrated unmistakable signs of deteriorating health.

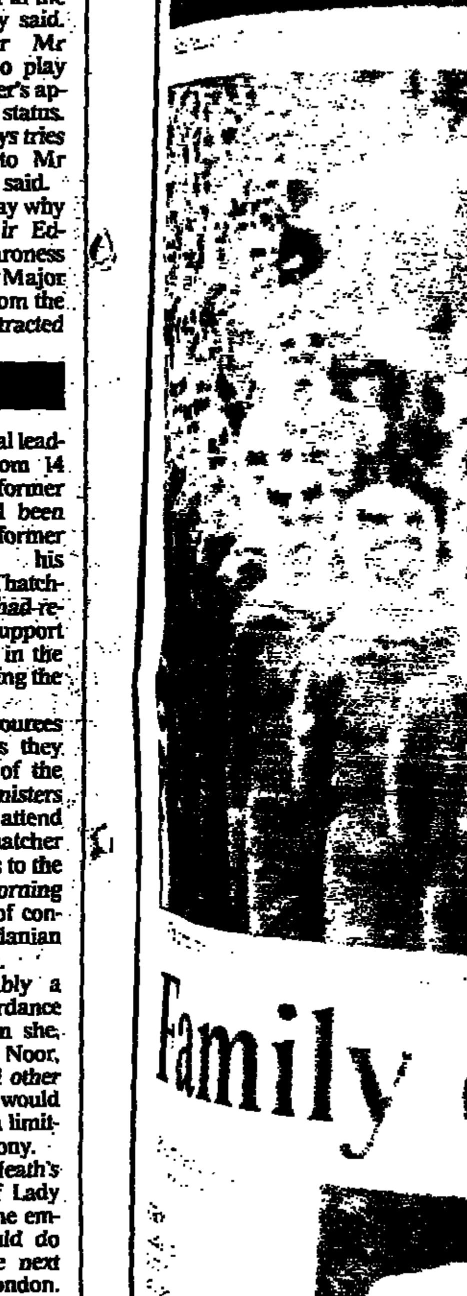
Although President Assad does have an official number two, Abdul-Halim Khaddam, his hardline Vice-President, he has spent much time grooming his second son, Bashar, an ophthalmologist said to lack his father's mettle and legendary cunning, to succeed him. The President had to switch his plans after his favourite eldest son, Bassel, was killed in a high-speed car crash.

Mr Arafat, the former guerrilla leader who survived many assassination attempts, is now visibly suffering from a perpetually trembling lower lip, thought to mark the onset of Parkinson's disease, and has admitted he may not live another two years. He, too, has never designated a successor. If he were to die soon, there could be a civil war between different factions of the Palestinian security forces.

Another neighbour of Jordan where any transfer of power could have wide-ranging regional implications is Iraq. If American efforts to overthrow President Saddam Hussein, in power since 1979, succeeded, near-anarchy could follow, with the Kurdish north and Shia Muslim south splitting away from the mainly Sunni Muslim centre that includes Baghdad.

In the emirates of the Gulf, many leaders are ageing, too, having ruled since their states gained independence from Britain. King Abdullah II of Jordan has made a point of cultivating close ties with the next generation there.

MATTHEW PARRIS IS ON PAGE 4



JACK DABAGHIAN / REUTERS



KHALIL MAZRAAWI / AFP



King Abdullah, right, comforts his uncle, *Prince Muhammad*, at the Raghadan Palace. *Deposed Crown Prince Hassan, left, is at the forefront of the mourners.* Queen Noor, *second from left, with Princesses Iman, Raya and Haya show their grief*

CHRIS HARRIS



The funeral procession embarks on the final journey from the Raghadan Palace to the Royal Cemetery, where King Hussein was laid to rest beside his father and grandfather

Family closes ranks in grief

By Christopher Walker and Ross Dunn

JORDAN'S Royal Family yesterday *staged* a dignified but effective show of unity in grief to mark King Hussein's funeral and to mask the internal feuds over power which marred the last months of his life.

The new King, Abdullah II, stood close to — and often consulted — the late King's youngest brother, Prince Hassan, who was deposed two weeks ago after being the designated heir for 34 years. Senior officials said he would be offered *an important* advisory post in the new administration.

Standing near them, also showing signs of deep sadness, was Prince Muhammad, Hussein's little-known second brother, who was passed over as Crown Prince in 1965 because of fears *of hereditary* mental instability. These fears have been discounted.

Also present as Hussein's five sons stood close to each other — and at one point helped to carry *the flag-draped* coffin — was the newly appointed heir apparent, Hamzah, Hussein's eldest son by his fourth wife, the American-born Queen Noor. She will retain a position of considerable influence in her adopted country.

The surprise appointment of Crown Prince Hamzah, 18, who is at Sandhurst, was seen by many Jordanians as another attempt to heal family divisions. However, some opposition members saw it as evidence that *the* US *may* indirectly increase its influence over Jordanian affairs because they assume Queen Noor will pursue Washington's line.

United yesterday *in mourning*, the Hashemite family is now expected to *rally round King Abdullah, 37, in the* difficult early months of his rule, when foreign powers or internal subversives, including Muslim extremists, could try to destabilise Jordan.

Taking his place along a main boulevard to watch the funeral procession yesterday, Ghandi Naouri, a businessman, managed a difficult balancing act. With one arm, he held up a homemade poster proclaiming "Our King *of* Peace, May He Rest in Peace". With the other he held aloft *his three-year-old daughter, Indira*, so that she could see over the heads of other bystanders. "I want her to remember this day," said Mr Naouri.

He said that the Israeli delegation, including Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, was welcome in Jordan because King Hussein had wanted to normalise relations between the two former enemies.

In 1994, Jordan signed a treaty *with* Israel, *becoming only the second Arab nation after Egypt to make* peace *with the Jewish state. "I think* this King was trying to do this from the beginning," Mr Naouri said. "This is our King's hope, our King's wish, we don't *mind* [that the Israelis are present]."

The peace with Israel was one of *the difficult realities that Jordanians* had to accept, said Khairi al-Qadi, 32, a sales manager.

"Frankly speaking, no one likes the Jewish people because of what *they* have done to Arabs," he said. "But in these circumstances we have to forget the politics. There is no problem. Nobody would like to see trouble."

"We came here to express our feelings. Everyone is sad, but we have to *forget sadness and to support* Abdullah," he said.

"King Abdullah will be compared with his father," he added. "King *Hussein* used to feed him with his thoughts."

Hamad Diad, 17, thought it should be obvious when asked why he was there. "Because I want to see the Jordanian people cry and cry for King Hussein," he said, as the tears began *to well up in his own eyes.*



The late King's horse, his master's boots reversed in the stirrups

THE FAITHFUL STALLION

AMONG many moving moments in a day of grief unlike any seen before in the Hashemite kingdom, even hardened television commentators shed a tear at the sight of the King's beloved white Arab stallion Amr — his master's black boots reversed in the stirrups — following the coffin dejectedly towards the sounding of the Last Post and the firing of a 15-gun salute.

***As befits tradition in this desert kingdom,* the horse — often seen with military trappings with the uniformed King in the saddle — will never be ridden again now that his royal rider is dead.**

Tears, prayers and unspoken fears at grave

Continued from page 1

and anguished lined up for *hours in icy rain to catch a last* glance of their leader while the privileged stayed in the comfort of their homes to watch on TV. Many Arab nations, with the notable exception of Iraq, also showed the nearly five-hour spectacle live.

Unlike Mr Rabin's funeral, which had seen many of the same VIP guests and at which *Hussein* gave a deeply moving tribute to a man he had come to regard as a friend, there were no public eulogies or speeches of any kind — just tears, prayers and unspoken fears over how the loss of such *a champion of peace could* affect a strategic region where war remains a constant risk.

Covered only in a white shroud, the 63-year-old Hussein was buried close to his father Talal, whose short reign was ended when he was declared to be schizophrenic and put into care. After flagstones were placed over the grave, pointing east *towards* Mecca — Hussein was a direct descendant of the prophet Muhammad — Beduin guards in the red and white chequered *kefiyahs* ubiquitous among the thousands of local dignitaries *fired automatic* weapons over the grave.

In a day as heavy with symbolism as any could remember, the most memorable was that of President Yeltsin, the ailing Russian leader — evidently numbed by painkillers and other drugs — who defied his Kremlin doctors' advice and made a brief appearance *before leaving early, virtually* pushed into his car by two burly guards, and returning to Moscow where speculation about his own health after a recent bleeding ulcer was immediately renewed.

"I cannot imagine him risking his health like that for any other leader in the world," said a Jordanian official. "But *now we must pray he will not* suffer the same fate as our King, whose death was speeded because he left his sickbed *before being cured [of cancer]* to be with us."

Apart from Mr Blair, the British delegation included the Prince of Wales, the Conservative leader, William Hague, and the outgoing Liberal Democrat leader, Paddy Ashdown.

Mr Blair praised King Abdullah as "a man of enormous *ability and drive*", and said like most other observers present that he believed Jordan would continue to support the Middle East peace process.

"There is an overwhelming *feeling in this region that un*less we make this process work, the alternative is too dreadful to contemplate," the Prime Minister added. "I do believe that the commitment of the world exists to make sure that the process works and the position of Jordan, I am sure, will remain a position of full enthusiasm for the process."

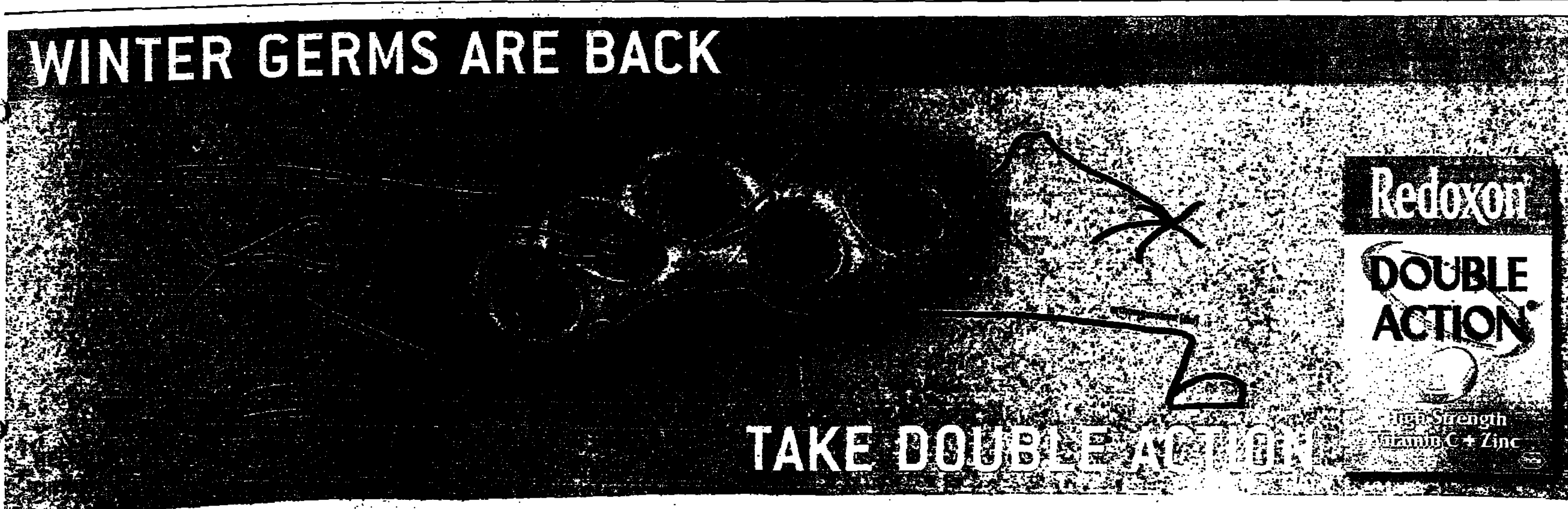
☐ London: Jordanians from around Britain gathered at the Embassy in South Kensington yesterday to watch the state funeral.

Foub Ayoub, the Jordanian *Ambassador* to Britain, declared his private study open to his fellow countrymen and around 25 people huddled in front of the television.

The mourners, including students and businessmen, had travelled from as far as Cardiff and Bristol to pay their respects. Several choked back tears as the late King reached *his final resting place.*

The Jordanian flag flew at half-mast outside the embassy. Since the announcement of the King's death, staff have taken more than 300 phone calls, mainly from Britons, expressing their condolences. A steady stream of visitors dropped by to deliver flowers.

Leading article, page 17



Charity to run first privatised school

Parents back pioneering deal as firms hope for a boom, report

John O'Leary and Hannah Betts

THE commercial arm of a specialist school in the West Midlands is poised to take over the management of a failing comprehensive 130 miles away in Surrey.

County councillors yesterday named 3E's Enterprises Ltd, linked to the Kingshurst City Technology College, in Solihull, as the preferred bidder for a contract to run Kings' Manor School in Guildford. It will be the first state school to be handed over to a private company, although in this case the company is a charitable foundation that ploughs back profits into its schools.

The entrepreneurs who make up the thriving new education market see the contract as merely the first of a series of business opportunities. The profits of the 18 listed education companies now outpace the FTSE All-Share Index.

A new round of education action zones, running scores of schools in areas of poor performance, and multimillion-pound contracts to take over local education authority services are on the horizon. Many expect others to follow Surrey in putting a school's management out to tender.

3E's Enterprises beat competition from two other companies, Nord Anglia Education plc and the Centre for British Teachers. Surrey officials are to hold two weeks of talks with the Kingshurst governors before forwarding its plans to David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary. Government sources foresaw no problems yesterday.

Kings' Manor, which was Surrey's bottom state school in last year's GCSE league table, had been considered for closure before the Conservative-controlled council opted for private consultancy. Andrew Povey, education chairman, described the plan as a "revolutionary approach". The provisional title for the new school is The Guildford College of the Arts and Technology.



Ben Cartwright: views changed on takeover

It will be relaunched in autumn 2000, with a new curriculum emphasising vocational qualifications. Stanley Goodchild, managing director of 3E's Enterprises, said: "Any profit or bonus will be shared equally between Kings' Manor and Kingshurst."

Parents said they had come to believe Kingshurst could do what the authority could not — boost falling enrolments and academic achievement. Ben Cartwright, chairman of the Kings' Manor Community Action group, said: "We campaigned against this until we met Kingshurst. Now we're convinced that, if anyone can turn the school around, they can."

Surrounded by an affluent greenbelt and four successful schools, the Kings' Manor community carries the tag of "socially deprived". Built to house about 900 students, the enrolments have fallen to about 400. Kingshurst was Britain's first City Technology College when it opened 11 years ago. The rate for 16-year-olds staying on at school in the area was 17 per cent. It is now 97 per cent, and 40 per cent go on to university.

"What we can offer Kings' Manor are the techniques of regeneration," Mr Goodchild said. "Three things are vital — that the school must be owned by the local community, that pupils feel proud to attend the school, and that the school should have the support of the wider community."

Leading article, page 17

Rivals in the education business

NORD ANGLIA

KEVIN McNEANY, chairman and founder, saw shares double to £36 million on the back of reports of government support for privately run education action zones. Nord Anglia runs careers services and Ofsted inspection teams in the state sector and is the market leader in private English language tuition. Other private sector interests include 15 independent schools. He expects to see 200 schools managed by the private sector within five years.

EDISON PROJECT

BENNO SCHMIDT, the former President of Yale University, is the public face of America's best-known education management company. He has made a number of visits to Britain to try to convince ministers and local authorities that the Edison Project has a formula that will work on both sides of the Atlantic. The withdrawal of Edison's bid was disappointing to those who saw it as the forerunner of a radical management alternative.

CfBT

NEIL McINTOSH, managing director of the non-proift-making trust CfBT, has made trenchant criticisms of local education authorities. A former head of the charity Shelter and Labour councillor, Mr McIntosh, 54, is now a Liberal Democrat. He is seen as a shrewd political operator who has made his company one of the main players on the education scene. He sees organisations such as his as "the Third Way".

Lloyds Bank Interest Rates for Business Customers

LLOYDS BANK BASE RATE	
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INTEREST EARNING ACCOUNTS

Business Investment Account – Monthly Interest (30 Day Notice)	Old AER %	Old Gross %	New AER %	New Gross %	New Net %
£250,000+	4.75	4.65	4.23	4.15	3.32
£100,000-£249,999	4.70	4.60	4.18	4.10	3.28
£25,000-£99,999	4.44	4.35	3.92	3.85	3.08
£10,000-£24,999	3.92	3.85	3..40	3.35	2.68
£1-£9,999	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.40

Premier Interest Account – Monthly Interest (14 Day Notice)	Old AER %	Old Gross %	New AER %	New Gross %	New Net %
£250,000+	4.65	4.55	4.13	4.05	3.24
£100,000-£249,999	4.44	4.35	3.92	3.85	3.08
£25,000-£99,999	4.18	4.10	3.66	3.60	2.88
£10,000-£24,999	3.76	3.70	3.25	3.20	2.56
£1-£9,999	2.53	2.50	2.02	2.00	1.60

Business Call Account – Monthly Interest	Old AER %	Old Gross %	New AER %	New Gross %	New Net %
£250,000+	3.09	3.05	2.58	2.55	2 04
£50,000-£249,999	2.89	2.85	2.38	2.35	1 88
£10,000-£49,999	2.53	2.50	2.02	2.00	1.60
£1000-£9,999	2.22	2.20	1.71	1.70	1.36
£1-£999	1.97	1.95	1.46	1.45	1.16

Clients Call Account – Half Yearly Interest	Old AER %	Old Gross %	New AER %	New Gross %	New Net %
£1,000,000+	4.09	4.05	3.53	3.50	2.80
£100,000-£999,999	3 94	3.90	3.43	3.40	2.72
£10,000-£99,999	3.38	3.35	2.87	2.85	2 28
£2,500-£9,999	2.67	2.65	2 16	2 15	1.72
£1-£2,499	0 85	0.85	0.35	0.35	0.28

Clients Call Account – Monthly Interest	Old AER %	Old Gross %	New AER %	New Gross %	New Net %
£1,000,000+	4.09	4.02	3.53	3.47	2.78
£100,000-£999,999	3.94	3.87	3.43	3.38	2.70
£10,000-£99,999	3.38	3.33	2.87	2.83	2.27
£2,500-£9,999	2.67	2.64	2.16	2.14	1.71
£1-£2,499	0.85	0.85	0.35	0.35	0.28

Treasurers Account – Monthly Interest	Old AER %	Old Gross %	New AER %	New Gross %	New Net %
£25,000+	2.94	2.90	2.38	2.35	1.88
£10,000-£24,999	2.27	2.25	1.76	1.75	1.40
£5,000-£9,999	1.66	1.65	1.16	1.15	0.92
£2,500-£4,999	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.40
£500-£2,499	1.00	1.00	0 25	0.25	0.20
£1-£499	0.75	0.75	0.25	0.25	0.20

No longer available for new business

Business Reserve Account* – Quarterly Interest (14 Day Notice)	Old AER %	Old Gross %	New AER %	New Gross %	New Net %
£10,000+	3.60	3.55	3.09	3 05	2.44
£1-£9,999	3.24	3.20	2 63	2.60	2.08

No longer available for new business

Deposit Account* – Monthly Interest (7 Day Notice)	Old AER %	Old Gross %	New AER %	New Gross %	New Net %
£1+	0 25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.20

No longer available for new business

Deposit Account* – Half Yearly Interest (7 Day Notice)	Old AER %	Old Gross %	New AER %	New Gross %	New Net %
£1+	0.25	0.25	0 25	0 25	0.20

No longer available for new business

BUSINESS MORTGAGES* Band	% Per Month	Eqv. Annual Rate %
A	0.95	11.40
B	0.77	9.24
C	0.73	8.76

LOANS	% Per Month	Eqv. Annual Rate %
Flexible Business Loan, Business Loan and Farm Loan – Standard	0.95	11.40
Flexible Business Loan, Business Loan and Farm Loan – Special	0 77	9.24
Flexible Business Loan – Preferential	0.73	8.76
Small Business Loan – Standard*	1.04	12.48
Managed – Small Business Loan*	0.94	11.28

OVERDRAFTS Band	% Per Month	Eqv. Annual Rate %
A (and Standard)	0.92	11.04
B	0.83	9.96
C	0.74	8.88
D	0.70	8.40
Unauthorised	2.00	24 00

Interest rates may vary from time to time. All rates are per annum except where stated. AER stands for Annual Equivalent Rate and is the notional rate which illustrates the gross or tax free rate as if paid and compounded on an annual basis. As every advert for a savings product will contain an AER you will be able to compare more easily what return you can expect from your savings over time.

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Net – The rate of interest which would be payable after allowing for the deduction of income tax at the rate specified by law. Interest is normally paid at the net rate unless the account falls within an exempt category or the Accountholder qualifies to receive interest gross.

*These products are no longer open to new customers.

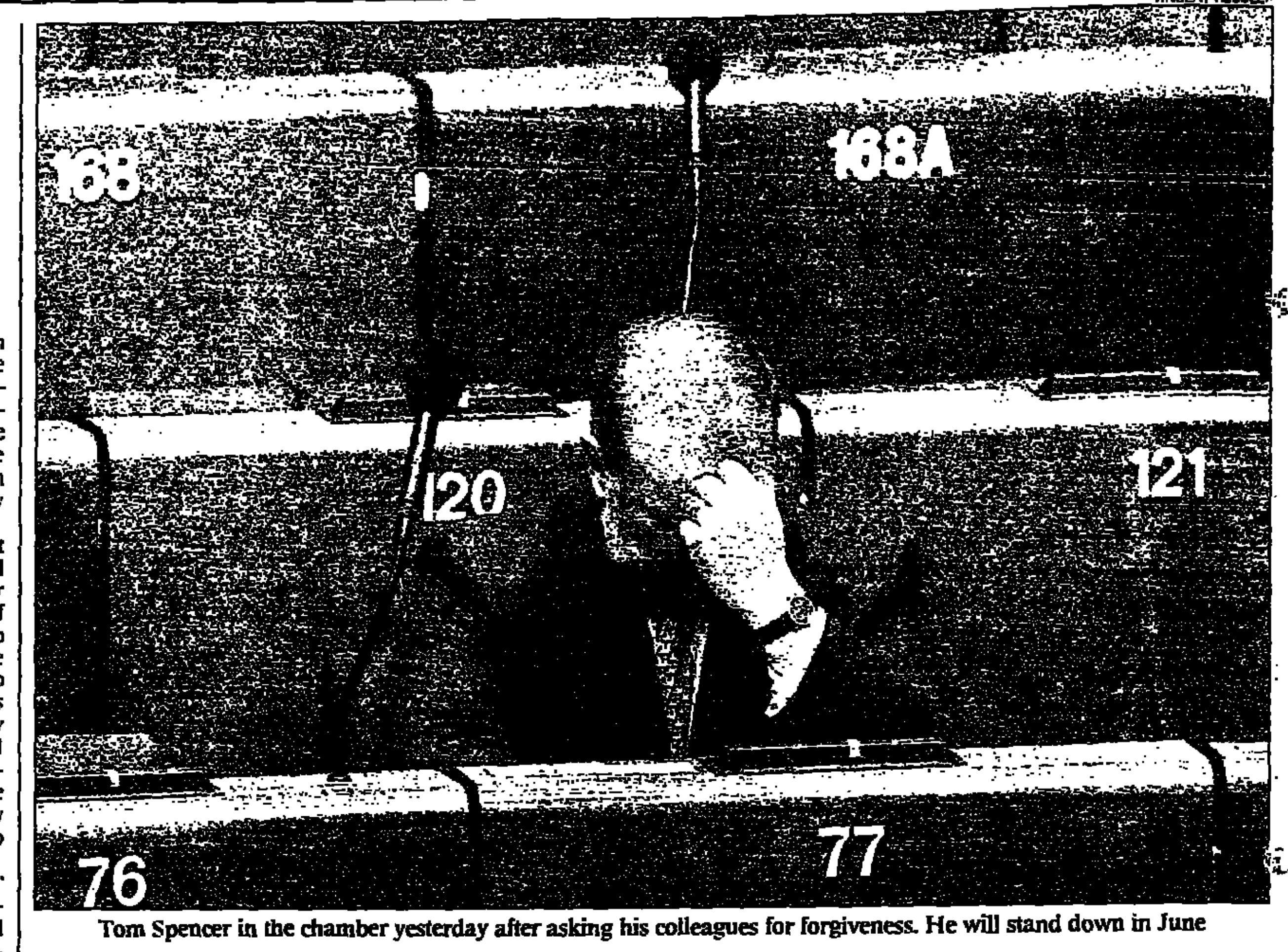
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VINCENT KESSLER

Tom Spencer in the chamber yesterday after asking his colleagues for forgiveness. He will stand down in June

Comfort from a fellow MEP after his speech

Drug Tory says sorry to MEPs

THE Tory Euro MP found with drugs and gay pornography in his luggage apologised to the European Parliament yesterday. Tom Spencer said that he had shown "extraordinary foolishness" to carry the cannabis and magazines found by customs officials at Heathrow airport last month.

To applause from the chamber, Mr Spencer said: "I would like to make it clear to those who would use my stupidity to attack Europe and its Parliament that the fault is mine and mine alone."

The married father of three also said that his acts were "rooted in love". His wife, Liz, who has said that she knew her husband was homosexual from the start of their marriage, accompanied him to Strasbourg.

On January 20 customs officers impounded Mr Spencer's luggage after finding two cannabis joints and the pornography. He later telephoned them to say they had missed a small quantity of cocaine.

Mr Spencer, 50, later announced that he would stand down as a candidate for Surrey in the European elections in June. He had been told that William Hague's new ethics and integrity committee would almost certainly find against him. *(AFP)*

Meningitis outbreak declared emergency

By Simon de Bruxelles

A HEALTH authority declared a public emergency yesterday after three people died of meningococcal meningitis.

The latest victim was a teacher in her fifties. Lynne James, a mother of two, was head of domestic education at Cardinal Newman Roman Catholic school in Pontypridd, South Wales.

In the past month 11 people from Pontypridd have fallen ill with the disease. Besides the three dead — a teenage boy died early last week and a 60-year-old woman two weeks ago — another boy is critical and five other people are in hospital.

More than 1,600 pupils and staff from three schools in the area have received antibiotics and vaccinations.

Dr Meirion Evans, consultant in communicable diseases at Bro Taf Health Authority, said: "By declaring a public health emergency we are effectively calling all hands on deck. We are extremely concerned by this outbreak and we are asking parents to be extra vigilant and alert to the symptoms of meningitis."

Blair in plea to Schröder over Longbridge

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

TONY BLAIR threw his weight behind the campaign to save Rover's car plant at Longbridge yesterday with a personal plea to Gerhard Schröder, the German Chancellor.

The Prime Minister raised the future of the threatened works during a brief conversation with Herr Schröder at King Hussein's funeral.

Sources said that, while there were no detailed discussions between the two men, Mr Blair underlined the benefits of the Longbridge plant and of investment in the United Kingdom generally.

He is thought to have asked Herr Schröder to use any influence he has with the parent group BMW to put the case for investment in the new medium-sized Rover car at Longbridge.

They agreed to keep in close touch on the issue, according to officials, and they will meet again at a mini European summit in Bonn at the end of the month.

Government officials have been in talks with the company about the possibility of selective assistance to help productivity, but so far there has been no application from Rover for any funding.

The meeting between Mr Blair and Herr Schröder came as Stephen Byers, the Trade and Industry Secretary, toured the sprawling Birmingham plant trying to calm fears about lost jobs and possible closure. Mr Byers said he was in close contact with the German car giant, which is believed to be reviewing its strategy for Rover before making decisions later this month.

Fears of mass redundancies, particularly at Longbridge, have eased, but unions called on BMW to end the uncertainty which remains by agreeing to build new models in Britain. In December it promised to build the new Mini at Longbridge.

Mr Byers said: "We will be making the strongest possible recommendation to BMW about the importance of Longbridge."

Unions said they were delighted that Mr Byers visited the plant so soon after the boardroom shake-up.

Experts criticise tax on child benefit

By Jill Sherman, Chief Political Correspondent

CITY accountants last night criticised the Government's plan to tax child benefit for high earners, warning of the practical difficulties involved.

It is expected that the Chancellor will announce in his Budget that child benefit is to be taxed at 40 per cent for higher rate taxpayers. He is said to be proposing to tax one million families where either parent earns more than £31,295.

Accountants and policy groups said the money would be hard to collect where couples were unmarried, and there would be an incentive for mothers not to declare that their partners paid tax at the top rate. The Institute of Fiscal Studies said it was unfair to tax couples where the father earned £31,000 and the mother did not work while not taxing those where both parents earned just under £30,000.

Maurice Fitzpatrick, of the accountants Chantrey Vellacott, said that the Treasury had not yet explained how the practical problems would be overcome.

Darling the diplomat walks into the Tories' poverty trap



MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

The trouble with Alistair Darling is that he's too unthreatening. Show him a ruffled feather, and he smoothes it.

This was not what Tony Blair wanted. The new Labour project was to delight the *Daily Mail* by upsetting the Left and scaring the poor. By this stage in her job, Harriet Harman, Darling's predecessor as Social Security Secretary, had upset the nation's single mums, delighted the *Mail* and provoked a major backbench rebellion and a ministerial resignation.

But her successor is failing. He lacks the necessary clumsiness. A born diplomat — adroit, evasive, reassuring — his presence at the dispatch box calms MPs horribly. The screams of the Left (music to Blair) have ceased: Darling has turned away the poverty lobby with soft words. "New Labour — no claws!" "Helpless, destitute, unprovided for? — don't worry: this Government cares!" Mr Darling is veering badly off-message.

So plausible has been Darling's insistence that he is a friend to the poor that the Tories have found their voice. They have begun a convincing attack from the Right. Exposed on his right flank! If the Prime Minister had been watching Social Security Questions yesterday he would have been appalled. Darling was singing the praises of his Minimum Income Guarantee for pensioners.

Again. For months this scheme has been assiduously hyped. "Unveiled" more often than a professional stripper, the promise of a generous safety net for all who fail to save for old age has been Darling's chorus all year. So sweetly has he cooed that it is the MPs for the middle classes, not the poor, who have taken fright.

Tory after Tory yesterday made the same point. Desmond Swayne (New Forest West) insisted that, if the State was to be more generous to those who retired without savings, where was the incentive to save? Darling insisted that it was right to give more help, muttering that he was "looking at" ways of avoiding a poverty trap.

Iain Duncan Smith, for the Opposition, pressed the argument. Darling replied that Tory logic must therefore be to offer less to the one third of pensioners who would benefit from the Government's Guarantee.

Speaking for the two thirds who would not benefit, John Bercow (Buckingham) said a that means test would discourage savers. Darling murmured, "I don't accept that at all," but did not explain why.

A fierce attack from the Left sitting behind him would have rescued the Secretary of State from the MPs for the *Daily Mail* — but none came. He had sold his Guarantee all too well. When urged by Syd Rapson (Lab, Portsmouth North) to tell us how new Labour would crack down on the massive benefit fraud that robbed Britain of up to £7 billion a year, Darling's reply seemed designed to calm Mr Rapson down. He should have been geeing him up. It was Rapson who was on message.

Malcolm Wicks (Lab, Croydon North) tried to reinforce the message, prodding Darling to agree that family credit was "wide open" to fraud. Darling, poor darling, tried to lower the temperature: there were indeed "gaps in the safeguards": "weaknesses," "difficulties to be dealt with". This is no way to the headline: "Minister declares war on scroungers".

Growing in his job, a newish junior minister, Stephen "three-brains" Timms, is less goofy and more assured with every passing month. This minister looks quite confident of his brief, even relishing the argument. Where Darling's instinct is to deflect, Timms's is to engage. But both are courteous. To please Middle Britain, the team needs someone really horrid.

Philosophical storyteller with an open mind

Iris Murdoch underrated her own talent for seeking out the good, writes Erica Wagner

IRIS MURDOCH seemed to have a modest opinion of her own talent. "My problem is not being great," she once said. "I'm in the second league, not among the gods like Jane Austen and Henry James and Tolstoy." A bad review, she said, was even less important than whether it was raining in Patagonia.

Novels such as *The Sea, The Sea* (1978), which won the Booker Prize, *A Severed Head* (1961) and *The Black Prince* (1973) may prove her wrong. She wrote 27 novels over the course of four decades, as well as volumes of philosophy — her first book in 1953, was an academic work on Sartre. By the end of her life, stricken with Alzheimer's disease, she had no recollection or understanding, it seemed, of what she had accomplished; though her husband, John Bayley, was able to find a kind of solace for this loss in his moving memoir of Dame Iris, published last year.

"She is not sailing into the dark," he wrote. "The voyage is over and, under the dark escort of Alzheimer's, she has arrived somewhere. So have I." Her illness was a journey they undertook together.

An illness of the brain afflicting one who lived by her mind seems a particularly painful irony; never more so than in the case of Murdoch, whose genius was for blending philosophical inquiry with compelling storytelling, an ability that may be regarded as one of the highest arts of human consciousness. She relished Shakespeare, James, Tolstoy and Eliot, all writers who were able to embody what might be thought of philosophical problems — Othello's jealousy, Catherine Sloper's romantic blindness — in characters that live and breathe on the page.

Novels such as *A Fairly Honourable Defeat* (1970) and *An Accidental Man*, written the following year, explored her fascination with the conduct of the virtuous man and the moral complexity of human relationships; in this her art, perhaps, reflected her life.

Her fascination with men whom she regarded as great thinkers was a part of her finding her way in the world. An early boyfriend was Frank Thompson, brother of the historian and peace campaigner E. P. Thompson, under whose influence she joined the Communist Party; just after the war she became involved with Raymond Queneau, the mathematician and novelist; Sartre, and the Nobel prizewinning novelist Elias Canetti. Was she in love with these men? "I admired the men I was involved with for their personalities and their minds," she said later. "I both wished and needed to learn from them."

On the brink of the disillusioned 21st century, her work might be viewed as unfashionable, seeking, as it always did, what was good. She was no believer in God, but wrote: "I have wanted to move from 'God' to 'Good', taking 'religion' along too." Yet she did not want her fiction to be viewed as a mouthpiece for her philosophy; what made the novel moral for her was its ability to encompass all of life. "It had not been his fate," she wrote of a character in *The Philosopher's Pupil* (1983) "not to be interested in anything except everything."

Murdoch, too, was interested in everything, even at the end of her life. When I met her for the first time last year at a party, she shook my hand, greeted me warmly, her face interested and open even though, in the next moment, I knew she would have no recollection of who I was.

Her novels were able to take in the emotional upheavals of an Anglican lay community in *The Bell* (1958); a stage play, *The Three Arrows* (1972), was produced in Cambridge with Ian McKellen and was set in medieval Japan. She lived a quiet life, it appeared, but her mind, until her last years always acute, ranged widely. That is a rare quality in any novelist and, while her death is a loss, her great books are still on the shelves.

Obituary, page 19

PETER NICHOLLS



Iris Murdoch with her husband, John Bayley, who wrote a moving memoir of her, in their garden last September

Party row thug took revenge on host's terriers

By Michael Horsnell

A HOLIDAYMAKER'S worst fears were realised after she agreed to let her teenage daughter hold a small party for close friends while she was away.

Carol Sykes returned from two weeks in Mexico to find that a gatecrasher had strangled her three dogs, killed 16 goldfish and ransacked her house.

David McLaren, a 21-year-old skinhead, had become enraged at being thrown out of the party for being rowdy. The next night, high on cannabis, he returned while Mrs Sykes's daughter Rebecca, 17, was away and smashed his way in through the patio doors.

Manchester Crown Court was told that he later boasted to friends about swaggering around the house carrying the Yorkshire terriers by their throats. The bodies of two of the dogs were found dumped in nearby bushes. The other has not been seen since but is presumed to be dead.

McLaren, unemployed and from Failsworth in Manchester, was known to Rebecca but had not been invited to her party. During the break-in he also put the family's video recorder in the kitchen sink and turned on the taps, and tipped pot pourri into the fish tank. He smashed several mirrors and stole a satellite dish and hi-fi system worth £1,000. Yesterday he was jailed for 12 months after he admitted criminal damage, cruelty to animals and burglary.

Mrs Sykes, a divorcee aged 38, was so upset after the break-in that she immediately left her £80,000, three-storey townhouse in Oldham and moved out of the neighbourhood.

After the case she said: "My dogs were priceless. They were part of the family for 14 years — I'd had them since they were pups.

"What that thug did broke all our hearts. They were all old dogs and they would not do anyone any harm. They were much-loved pets and it makes me sick to the stomach that someone could have done this barbaric thing to us."

Help the Aged staff fear for their jobs

By Claudia Joseph

HUNDREDS of workers at Help the Aged faced job losses yesterday after the charity predicted that it would suffer a £2 million slump in income.

The charity, which helps elderly people who are struggling to pay their heating bills, disclosed that it was suffering from a drop in customers at its high-street shops.

Managers are consulting the 1,000 employees on ways to save money. It is thought that many deputy managers could lose their jobs.

A consultation letter was sent to staff last week and regional managers are holding meetings with employees.

A spokeswoman for Help the Aged said that customers were spending less in their shops. She added: "The bottom has fallen out of the recycling market, which accounts for 1 per cent of our income." Worn-out clothes are sold on for the fabrics to be re-used.

A decision is expected on March 3. No shops are expected to close.

Ecstasy woman wins hospital damages

By Elizabeth Judge

A WOMAN who collapsed after taking Ecstasy at a nightclub accepted £250,000 agreed damages yesterday from the hospital that she said had failed to treat her properly.

Lorraine Leighton, 25, had to relearn how to speak, read and write after being treated at North Middlesex Hospital. The former beautician now has epilepsy and fears that she will never work again.

She would not have suffered such severe problems had she been treated properly, Duncan Pratt, her counsel, told the High Court. He said the problems created by taking Ecstasy could have been corrected.

Miss Leighton took two half-tablets of Ecstasy at a nightclub four years ago. She left feeling unwell, and was admitted to the hospital in Edmonton, North London, after her sister found her semi-conscious on her bedroom floor the next day.

North Middlesex NHS Trust admitted that hospital staff failed to carry out a blood test on Miss Leighton and that the wrong type of fluid was given in a drip. The trust denied, however, that this made any difference to her condition and would have argued, had there not been a settlement, that the damage done to Miss Leighton was a result of the Ecstasy.



Leighton: collapsed day after taking drug

Approving the settlement, Mr Justice Buckley said: "Tragically this case is only one of an increasing number that so clearly demonstrate the appalling risk of taking these so-called 'social' drugs and the iniquity of those who produce and peddle them and make them available to the young."

He praised Miss Leighton and her parents for the effort they had made to "make the best of the situation".

Miss Leighton sat listening with her parents as Mr Pratt told the court that her case was "a question of both tragedy and triumph".

The neurological disabilities she had been left with, initially of a most catastrophic kind, had been countered by the effort that she and her family had put into her rehabilitation, he said. She was now able to live alone in a flat.

The court was told that before the incident she was outgoing and had enjoyed a lively social life. She now has poor speech and social skills, and is unlikely to achieve her dream of being a beauty therapist in the West End of London.

Miss Leighton would not comment after the hearing. Her mother, Eileen, said: "I'm just glad it's all over."

Roger Howard, chief executive of the Standing Conference on Drug Abuse, said: "The responsibility for drugs lies with everyone in society. That responsibility includes having fully trained accident and emergency staff in our hospitals who know how to deal with drug-related problems."

Actress rises to occasion in the manner of Margo

By Susie Steiner

MARGO LEADBETTER, the imperious social climber of the television series *The Good Life*, could not have handled it better herself.

Yesterday Penelope Keith, the actress who played her, rose above calls for her resignation as president of the Actors' Benevolent Fund after an acrimonious and protracted battle with a former employee.

Rosemary Stevens, the charity's general secretary for 16 years, withdrew her claims of wrongful dismissal at the eleventh hour after an "amicable settlement" at an employment tribunal in Central London.

But it was a dispute — fraught with allegations of rumour-mongering, witchhunts and despotic rule — which has cost the fund over £32,000.

Last night the charity, which supports sick, retired and needy actors, stood to lose a further £1 million legacy from the theatrical agent Vincent Shaw over the affair.

Mr Shaw, 73, who managed the puppet act *Sooty*, said: "I have not changed my will yet because I was waiting to hear the outcome. I would like to know the facts. I want to give my money to actors not solicitors."

The film and theatre critic Michael Thornton, who has contributed to the fund for 40 years, called for Miss Keith's resignation. "None of this need ever have happened if we had had calm, sensible and wise leadership," he said. "Who is going to pay for it? Not Ms Keith. She has been behaving worse than Margo and Audrey Fforbes-Hamilton (her character in *To the Manor Born*) put together."

The fund responded with a statement saying that Miss Keith, 58, who has been fund president for eight years and was re-elected by its council last June, "has the unanimous support of the whole council and does not intend to resign".

Peirce returns CBE to No 10

By Richard Ford
Home Correspondent

GARETH PEIRCE, the solicitor involved in the struggle to right a series of miscarriages of justice, has turned down the CBE she was awarded in the New Year's Honours List.

The move by Ms Peirce, a solicitor involved in the Birmingham Six and Guildford Four cases, came only five weeks after she was given the honour for "services to justice".

But, within days of her honour being published, Ms Peirce wrote to Downing Street asking whether it could be withdrawn.

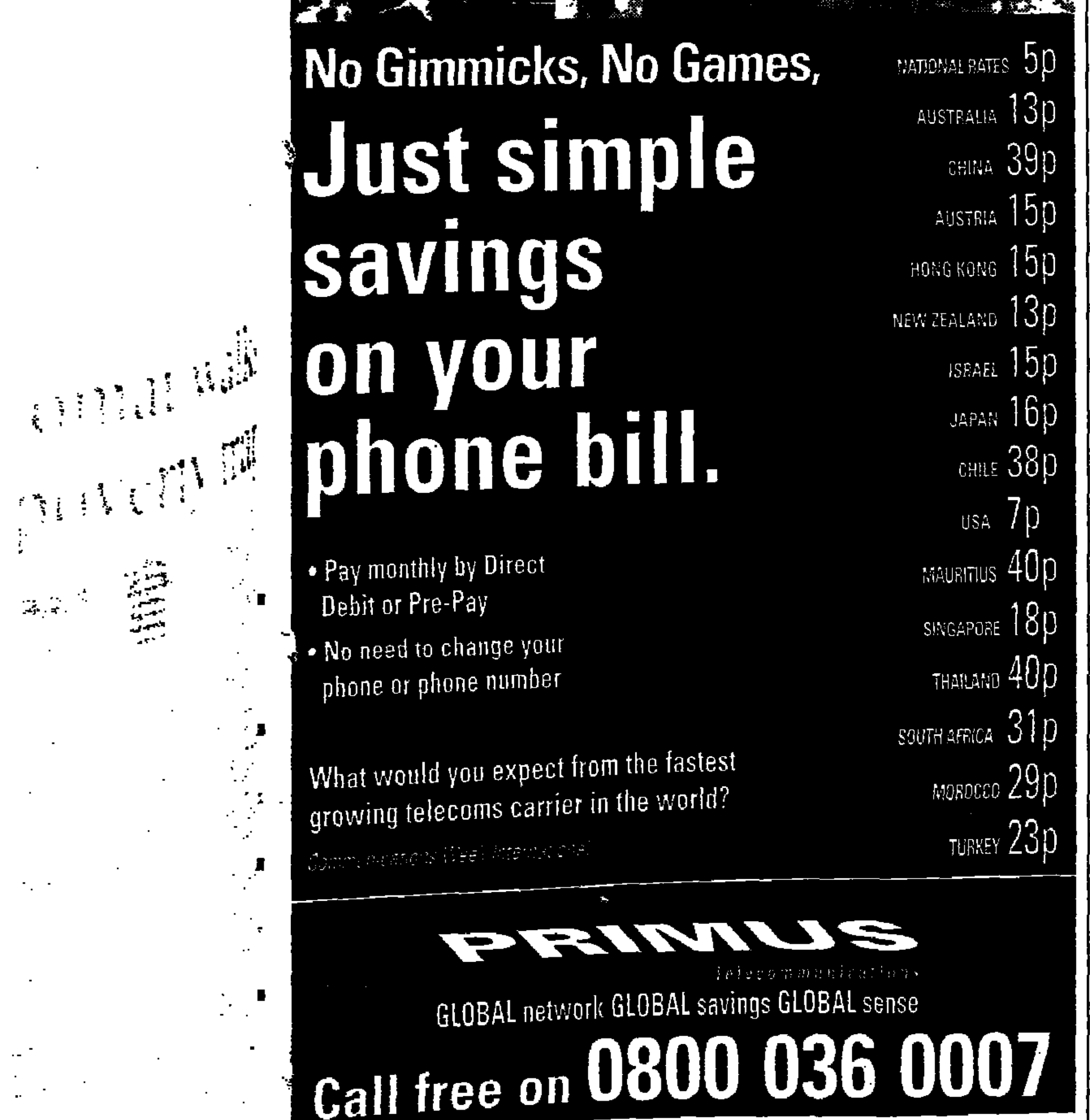
Last night Ms Peirce, one of the country's foremost criminal lawyers, was clearly embarrassed by the disclosure that she now wanted to turn down the honour.

She said: "I am not trying to make a public statement about this. It was not my intention to accept it and, through undoubtedly my own error, it was included in the list.

"I wrote privately to ask if it could be withdrawn. I would apologise for any difficulty that this might have caused."

Ms Peirce, a partner with the leading London solicitors' firm Birnberg and Co, would not give any details about how No 10 had been led to believe she had accepted the honour.

People offered honours are sent a letter and a note is enclosed with two boxes to indicate acceptance or not. Recipients are requested to tick the appropriate box.





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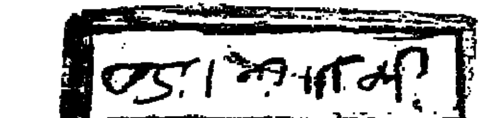
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Court will visit death site in war crime trial

Jury will make legal history with journey to scene of alleged atrocity, write **Alan Hamilton** and **Tim Jones**

LEGAL history will be made next week when a British judge and jury travel abroad to see the scene of alleged war crimes. A freezing, windswept corner of eastern Europe will briefly be transformed into the *Old Bailey*.

The jury, the first in Britain to try an alleged war criminal, will travel at the weekend to Belarus, formerly the Soviet republic of Belorussia. In the village of Domachevo, close to the Polish border, the eight men and four women will be shown where Anthony Sawoniuk, a 76-year-old retired railwayman from South London, is said to have assisted in the mass murder of Jews at the height of the Second World War. Mr Sawoniuk denies all the charges against him.

Britain's first full-scale war crimes trial opened at the Central Criminal Court in London yesterday to warnings from Mr Justice Potts that it would be unusual, difficult and long. Mr Sawoniuk, a stocky, bespectacled man with a shock of white hair, dressed in a brown jacket, check pullover and red tie, listened intently as four charges of murder were read out.

A Securicor guard sat in the dock while the defendant was allowed to sit at a table in the well of the court in front of his two counsel, William Clegg, QC, and Kalyani Kaul.

The atmosphere in No 1 Court was businesslike, even relaxed. The public gallery was empty. The judge was solicitous towards jurors and court staff facing a particularly long haul.

John Nutting, QC, leading counsel for the prosecution, told the court that the case related to events during the Second World War, and to Mr Sawoniuk's conduct as a policeman in his native Belorussia. The court, he said, would travel to the scene the better to understand the nature of the town, the terrain and the site where the defendant is alleged to have murdered a number of Jewish men and women.

Looking directly at the jurors, the judge said of Mr Sawoniuk: "It is alleged that he assisted the Germans in putting into effect the policy of mass murder of the local Jewish population. If either you or your family suffered as a result of the German actions against Jewish or other races or religions, then it would be better if you did not serve on this jury."

> ‘This will not be a holiday, ladies and gentlemen, let me grasp that nettle straight away. This is not the time of year people would choose to go where we are going’

Of the trip to Belarus, he said: "I am afraid this will not be a holiday, ladies and gentlemen, let me grasp that nettle straight away. This is not a time of year that people would choose to go where we are going." Warm clothing, the judge said, was essential.

The trial arises from the War Crimes Act of 1991, when the British Government was persuaded to pursue those responsible for atrocities committed half a century ago. The Act sparked a three-year police investigation involving 11 detectives and two historians into possible war criminals living in Britain. It cost £5.2 million. The team looked at 343 cases and eventually put forward five names to the Director of Public Prosecutions. The first trial failed in 1997 when a judge decided that the defendant, Szymon Serafinowicz, 86, was not fit to stand trial. He died eight months later.

Moving the entire court abroad is proving to be a huge undertaking. It will involve the judge and jury, six court officials, the judge's clerk, two jury protection police officers and legal teams of four each from the Crown and the defence. They will fly to Warsaw on Sunday and the following day travel by bus across the Belarus border. On Tuesday they will see where the murders are alleged to have been committed.

They will spend an expected three hours at the scene before making the long return journey to arrive back in England on Thursday. The logistics of this rare operation brought legal proceedings to a temporary halt at the Old Bailey yesterday. The hearing of evidence was delayed until today to enable the jury to be inoculated against typhoid, hepatitis A, diphtheria, tetanus and polio. The cost of their journey is being met from public funds.

The trial is expected to last until the end of March and to engender widespread interest and media attention. The judge delivered an unusually stern version of the standard warning to jurors not to discuss the case with anyone, not even their immediate families. They might have been relieved to hear that, because of the advanced age of the defendant and many of the witnesses, the court days will be mercifully short and will end at around 3pm.

Mr Sawoniuk will be allowed home each night and will not be required to travel to Belarus. He has been on bail since he was committed for trial by Bow Street magistrates in May last year.



Anthony Sawoniuk, a retired railwayman from South London, denies four charges of murdering Jews in Belorussia

German wartime secret service ‘useless’

By Robin Young

VICTORY by the Allies in the Second World War was made possible by the incompetence and corruption of the German secret intelligence staff, according to newly released government records.

A report prepared by Professor Hugh Trevor Roper (later Lord Dacre) in April 1945 is among documents newly available at the Public Record Office. It includes the assessment that German intelligence at the crucial stages of the war was "demonstrably incompetent, incapable of reform and threatened politically by rivalries outside".

The professor says that much of the blame lay with the personal faults of Admiral Canaris, the head of German intelligence, who staffed his offices with friends and dependants who were "in general idle and corrupt". In addition, he says, Canaris had "no conception of organisation".

He describes the German intelligence operations as a "loose and irresponsible collection of worthless characters Canaris refused to dismiss".

Trevor Roper pointed out that German intelligence failed to predict the three key Allied landings during the war: Torch, on the North African coast in November 1942; Husky, in Sicily in July 1943; and Overlord, the Normandy landings, in June 1944. Instead, he says, "the Abwehr was drowned with misinformation sometimes invented and often deliberately supplied by the Allies".

Canaris's one success, Trevor Roper concedes, was an elaborate system for reporting the passage of British ships through the Straits of Gibraltar, prepared with the assistance of the Spanish.

The admiral's fate was still unknown when Trevor Roper prepared his report, but a note in his writing adds that he was executed by strangulation on the orders of Himmler in April 1945. Almost all the Abwehr's general staff officers were involved in the generals' putsch against Hitler and most were executed, along with many of their agents.

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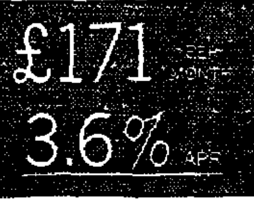
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Woman dies as the cold returns

By A Correspondent

A WOMAN died when she slipped on ice yesterday as Britain braced itself for an extended cold snap. The day saw snowfalls in several areas better known for their summer beaches.

Sussex and Dorset were among counties hit by falls that stretched from the south coast to Scotland, where Aberdeen and Wick both had 5in.

The mother of three who died in Broxburn, West Lothian, had slipped on the pavement yards from her front door. Police said it was not known whether Yvonne Davidson, 34, died as a result of banging her head or froze to death.

Forecasters said the snow would not return for the next few days at least, but that there would be no respite from the cold, with temperatures set to drop even further.

Rob Bunn, senior forecaster at the PA WeatherCentre in London, said: "Arctic blasts of wind are coming from the north and will bring cold weather for the rest of the week. We can expect a very sharp frost throughout nights this week. Temperatures tomorrow will be similar to those today but the Arctic winds will made it feel a lot colder."

He said that England and Wales could shiver in night-time temperatures as low as -5C (23F) throughout the week.

Heavy snow brought chaos to roads, with the AA reporting a flurry of breakdowns which peaked at 2,000 calls an hour just before midday.

Roads were particularly badly affected in West Wales and schools in the Lampeter area were forced to close. Snowploughs were used in Somerset for the first time in three years and there was a 3in blanket of snow on Exmoor and the Mendips. In northern Scotland, heavy snowfalls caused road closures from early on and the situation worsened through the day. Grampian Police advised people not to travel unless necessary.

Forecast, page 24

Irvine speaks up for Pinochet lord

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

THE Lord Chancellor came to the defence yesterday of Lord Hoffmann, whose links with Amnesty International caused a second hearing before the House of Lords of the Pinochet extradition case.

Lord Irvine of Lairg said in his first public comment on the affair that Lord Hoffmann was a lawyer of the utmost integrity and there was no question of his resigning. "What we are talking about here is an error of judgment," he said at a press briefing in the Lords. "Lord Hoffmann is a lawyer of the highest ability and should not be lost to the system for that single error."

The House of Lords was forced to set aside its original ruling that the former Chilean dictator did not enjoy immunity from extradition to stand trial for alleged human rights abuses, after Lord Hoffmann's Amnesty links became known. He was in the three-two majority.

The fiasco divided the legal profession, with some supporting Lord Hoffmann but some senior judges angry that he had made them what one called "a laughing stock internationally".

Amnesty International had told the law lords' hearing that General Pinochet had no immunity and should stand trial. The second hearing, costing an estimated £500,000, has just finished and judgment is expected in two or three weeks.

Lord Irvine, the head of the judiciary as well as the minister responsible for the legal system, admitted that the standing of the legal system had "taken a bit of a knock".

He said: "It is very, very unfortunate. It has never happend before this century and I don't believe it will happen again in 100 years. I don't think there is any queston of Lord Hoffmann resigning."

The Lord Chancellor added: "You can be absolutely sure that Lord Hoffmann was completely and utterly impartial in the view he formed of the law. He's a judge of the utmost integrity."

Fly-by reveals secrets of Eros

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

PICTURES of the asteroid Eros, taken by an American robot spacecraft, show that it is smaller than expected.

The Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous (Near) spacecraft took pictures of Eros just before Christmas as it flew by the asteroid after an unsuccessful firing of its main engine a few days earlier.

A later, successful firing put it on course to rendezvous with Eros to begin its planned year-long orbital mission, which is to start in about a year. During the fly-by, 222 photographs and supporting spectral observations were taken from 2,375 miles away. They show that Eros is about 21 miles long, eight miles wide and eight miles deep, rather smaller than Earth-based radar studies suggested. It rotates once every 5.27 hours and apparently has no moons.

Its density is about 2.7 grams per cubic centimetre, close to the average density of the Earth's crust and about twice as dense as the asteroid Mathilde, of which the craft took pictures in 1997.

The Eros images show a ridge that extends along the asteroid for 12 miles. "This feature, combined with the measurements of high density, suggests that Eros is a homogeneous body, rather than a collection of rubble," said Joseph Veverka, of Cornell University, who heads the imaging team. "It might be a remnant of a larger body that was shattered by an impact."

The surface of Eros is pocked with craters. The two largest are four miles and 5.3 miles in diameter respectively, less than half the size of Mathilde's largest craters. The existence of fewer, smaller craters could indicate that Eros has a relatively young surface.

The craft and Eros will cross paths again next February, when the spacecraft will go into orbit around the asteroid. "The fly-by of Eros has given us fundamental information that will help us plan a better orbital mission," said Andrew Cheng, a project scientist at the Applied Physics Laboratory at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, which manages the programme. "It has taken some of the risk out of our orbit insertion manoeuvre and early operations."

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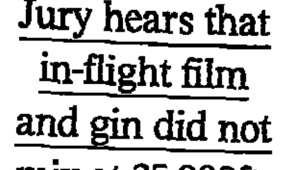
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Full Monty in aircraft lands police in court



Jury hears that in-flight film and gin did not mix at 35,000ft, reports Russell Jenkins

A POLICE inspector and his publican friend had a captive audience for their interpretation of *The Full Monty*, but their fellow passengers and crew on a transatlantic flight were left angry and frightened by their drunken performance, a court was told.

As the gin flowed, so the swearing and bad behaviour increased from Inspector David Perrett, 59, Peter Beck, 55, and Mr Perrett's son Richard, 26, a police constable, it was alleged.

Two elderly women bore the brunt of the abuse after the pilot was called to try to control the group, who were returning from a golfing holiday in Florida, the court was told. Betty Bailey, 71, said that she had not understood what was meant when one of the men said, "What's the betting it was the two dykes who snitched on us?", but she was immediately told by her friend, Ellen Bartlett, 78, that it was not pleasant.

The three men, all from Halifax, deny being drunk on board an aircraft, an offence under the Civil Aviation Act. They were arrested by waiting police when the Britannia Airways flight from Orlando touched down at Manchester last February.

Ian Metcalfe, for the prosecution, told Manchester Crown Court that the three, who were seated on either side of the aisle, were served eight gin and tonics from the trolley and, shortly after, negotiated four more miniature bottles of gin and two whiskies. Passengers then saw them sharing a litre bottle of duty-free gin. Their behaviour deteriorated, Mr Metcalfe said, and they became aggressive and abusive towards passengers who complained to the cabin crew.

"It may be that the situation was not assisted by the choice of in-flight movie, which was *The Full Monty*. That, in some way, may have encouraged the defendants to use bawdy language and, in effect, show off," Mr Metcalfe said.

At one point, it was alleged, Peter Perrett and Mr Beck stood up drunkenly in their seats and began to copy the male strippers' dance routine from the film. John Swift, a passenger, said: "They put their arms in the air and they were doing what they do in the film. They were gyrating their bodies."

Mr Swift's wife, Kathleen, told the court: "When the film came on, they got noisier and noisier. They were almost taking part in the film. It is very alarming when you are at 35,000ft in the air and all these things are happening around you."

After the men were asked to quieten down, it was alleged, one followed one of the elderly women to the lavatory, where he stood glaring at her.

Mr Metcalfe told the jury: "Behaviour that, in a more open area, would simply be boorish can become threatening and disgusting to people who have no choice but to be in close proximity for a considerable period of time."

Mrs Bailey, of Wakefield, said that the men's behaviour left her feeling faint and upset during the seven-and-a-half-hour flight. She said she could not help but hear Mr Beck, sitting across the aisle, utter a succession of obscenities as she tried to listen to classical music on her headphones. At one point she had to ask him to take his feet off her armrest.

Mrs Bartlett, a mother of four who had recently been widowed, said that she had become distressed when one of the men stood and glared at her menacingly when she went to the lavatory.

She said that the chief stewardess came to talk to the men shortly after. One had his legs splayed across the aisle and it seemed to amuse him that people had to climb over him to get past.

Mrs Bartlett, of Newcastle-under-Lyme, said that the man had made crude sexual comments about a stewardess and another woman. "It was all quite nasty."

Beverley Hill, a senior stewardess, told the court that the passenger sitting in seat 19F, David Perrett, placed his hand on her hip in a suggestive manner as she attempted to serve breakfast.

The case continues.

Passengers said they were frightened by the behaviour of, from left, Richard Perrett, Peter Beck and David Perrett



ROSS PARRY

Portrait of the artist getting to grips with his work: Sam Whiting, whose paintings have been on show already

Art is child's play for 2-year-old who prefers painting to sweets

By Paul Wilkinson
North East Correspondent

AT FIRST sight, two paintings submitted for a city's art exhibition showed a sense of style reminiscent of Jackson Pollock. However, the influential Pollock was perhaps less likely to have painted a pizza.

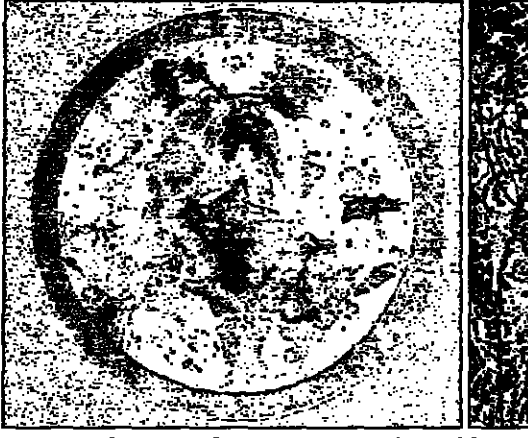
The new works are the creations of Sam Whiting, who is fulfilling some cynics' viewpoint that abstract art can seem like the work of a child. Sam is two years old.

His interpretation of a pizza and a work in blue and orange entitled *Abstract* are up for selection against paintings by adult artists for inclusion in the Winter Exhibition at the Ferens Art Gallery, Hull. Sam, who has painted since he could hold a brush and palette properly, has already impressed the local artistic community with his version of *Bonfire Night*, which was displayed at the gallery last year.

Yesterday his mother, Claire, who paints heraldic devices, said: "When other kids were having trouble getting a lid off a bottle, he was using a paintbrush. He doesn't make a mess with colours, they're always separated out. He prefers painting to sweets."

Ann Bukantas, the gallery's keeper of art, said that works were chosen purely on artistic merit. Her colleague David Scruton, who is organising the exhibition, said: "We do not know for sure whether Sam's work has been accepted yet. This is an open exhibition and we have collectors who select the works displayed from the total submitted. We show only about 40 to 60 per cent of the work submitted."

Pollock, the American action painter, abandoned the use of brushes in favour of dripping and spattering his paint. He once said that he wanted to express his feelings rather than illustrate them. He is regarded as the most challenging and influential American painter of the 20th century, and his works have sold for up to £1.5 million. From March 11 to June 6, the Tate Gallery in London is staging Britain's first Pollock retrospective in 40 years.



In the steps of a master: a genuine Whiting, left, and Pollock's *Watery Paths*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Care home boss jailed for cruelty

A care homes owner who ill-treated patients with learning difficulties, including one offence that the judge said "savours of sadism", was jailed for six months at Truro Crown Court. Donald Lee, 49, was convicted of ill-treating four patients, including a woman whose head he pushed underwater. David Poole, 40, a senior carer at the homes in Torrington, Devon, was jailed for three months for five charges of ill-treatment. Judge Graham Neville ordered that they serve half the sentences, with half suspended.

Air crash award

A typist whose right hand was badly hurt in a helicopter crash won £200,903 damages in the High Court. Ina Jacobs, 41, of Canvey Island, Essex, took the ride at Southend as a birthday treat. Corniche Helicopters admitted liability.

Legal battle lost

A group of 275 women who claim they have been made ill by the Norplant contraceptive device, made by Hoescht Marion Roussel, have been forced to abandon their battle for compensation after losing legal aid to fight a test case.

Amputation fear

A sailor who was flown to hospital in Hawaii after breaking his leg during the Clipper Round-the-World Yacht Race may have to have his foot amputated. Tim Richmond, 40, of Argyllshire, was injured when a rope wrapped round his leg.

Pupil cleans up

A teenager who became a school cleaner to fund her place at university has received £15,000 from wellwishers who read about her. Meggie Gan, 18, of Bruton School for Girls in Somerset, will read maths and physics at Cambridge.

Mark my word

A shop assistant who gave birth in a branch of Marks & Spencer has named her 7lb 2oz son Kyron Mark Spencer in honour of his birthplace. Charlotte McCalla, 22, of Birmingham, had no idea that she was pregnant.

TV deviation for Just A Minute

By Adam Sherwin

AFTER some hesitation and a not a little deviation, *Just A Minute*, the long-running radio quiz, is to make its debut on BBC television.

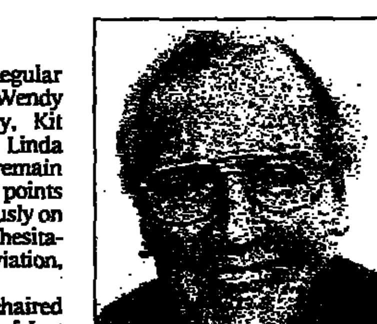
The programme made famous by star voices such as the braying wit of Kenneth Williams and the upper crust tones of Derek Nimmo will move to BBC1 later this year, with Nicholas Parsons, its veteran chairman, still in charge.

Ian Messiter devised the format in 1949 for the BBC Light Programme and sold it to American television two years later. Three years ago, BBC executives rejected a proposal to televise the show and Messiter reluctantly sold it to Carlton. The ITV company ran two series under Parsons, but failed to find a regular audience.

Yesterday a delighted Mr Messiter said that the quiz was "going home". Regular panellists will be Wendy Richard, Tony Slattery, Kit Heskith-Harvey and Linda Smith. The rules will remain the same. Panellists win points for speaking spontaneously on a given subject without hesitation, repetition or deviation, until the minute is up.

Parsons, who has chaired more than 700 episodes of *Just A Minute* since it was first aired on Radio 4 in 1967, promises to remain the butt of his guests' jokes. "It is rather like holding a hyped-up dinner party where the guests engage in clever talk and try to score points off each other, and particularly at the expense of the host," he said.

He will continue to preside over the radio version. When the programme seemed to be running out of steam a decade ago, new comedians such as Paul Merton and Jeremy Hardy were introduced to rejuvenate it.



Parsons: will remain the butt of panellists' jokes

Enlightened television executives have long recognised the rich pickings to be found in the entertainment departments of BBC Radio. Ever since Tony Hancock transferred his comic monologues from the Light Programme to the fledgling BBC television service, radio has been used as a breeding ground for talent.

The award-winning *This Is Alan Partridge*, with Steve Coogan, was plucked from radio. The character first appeared as part of *On The Hour*, a Radio 4 news spoof. *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* began as book readings on Radio 4. Two television series were sold around the world. Radio panel games have always been quickly assimilated.

BBC Television provided Radio 4 with money to make *Goodness Gracious Me*, the Asian comedy show, because BBC2 could not afford the expense of a series. When it became a hit BBC2 took it, but the programme's team will continue to work for Radio 4.

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Barmaids fined over fatal whisky contest

By Paul Wilkinson, North East Correspondent

TWO barmaids who sold double whiskies to a man who went on to die of alcoholic poisoning in a drinking contest with his father were both fined yesterday.

Shauna Wheatley and Mary Henderson admitted charges brought under rarely used licensing laws: supplying drinks on credit and selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken person.

Magistrates in Newcastle upon Tyne were told that the barmaids from the New Inn in the city sold a succession of large whiskies to Herbert Hoyle, 55, and his son Michael, 28, who were drinking for a £110 prize. Wheatley, 40, was fined £400 and Henderson, 58, was fined £300.

Michael Cowen, for the prosecution, said that the two men went drinking on Easter Sunday last year and after five or six lagers in a club they went to the New Inn. "Mr Hoyle senior recalled saying: 'One day you will drink your father under the table.' They then started a drinking competition with double whiskies.

"Mr Hoyle asked for drinks on tick and Mrs Wheatley gave them to him. Mr Hoyle senior is unable to remember how many double whiskies they had and the next thing he remembers was being in hospital.

"Another barmaid, Janet Boyd, finished her shift at 5pm and at one point she heard Mr Hoyle senior say to his son, 'You're slacking.' He then poured his double whiskies into one glass and drank them in one. She then heard him say 'Whoever wins this gets £110.'"

Wheatley and Henderson refused to comment after the case.

At the inquest on Mr Hoyle, the Newcastle Coroner recorded a verdict of misadventure.

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TESCO Personal Finance

£140m to give home carers a holiday

Grants will allow 'unsung heroes' to take a break from burden of duties, reports **Alexandra Frean**

THE country's unsung legions of carers are to receive £140 million from the Government to help them to take short breaks from their duties.

The money, announced yesterday by John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, will enable six million carers to take a holiday, attend evening classes, or simply catch up on household chores.

Spread over three years and available in England only, the grant provides official recognition that taking a break from caring is essential to reduce the psychological, emotional and physical stress faced by carers. The Scottish Office has allocated an extra £5 million a year for breaks and the Welsh Office will make an announcement next month.

Mr Prescott said that carers were the unsung heroes of British life. "One in eight people devotes large parts of their lives to helping others. There are very many stories about ordinary people doing extraordinary things," he said.

It is estimated that carers save the nation more than £34 billion a year in providing services that might otherwise fall to health authorities and social services.

More than 3.5 million carers look after someone with a disability and 850,000 provide help for more than 50 hours a week. Nearly 60 per cent of carers do not receive visits from the main providers of support services.

Although some councils and voluntary organisations provide support and respite care, provision throughout the country is patchy and inadequate.

The new money is part of a package of help for carers outlined in a policy document, *Caring about Carers*. The measures include council tax reductions for more disabled people and their carers.

There will be more help for the 25,000 to 50,000 children who care for a sick or disabled parent, including the designation of "link workers" in schools, to help pupils who are too scared to admit to teachers that they are carers for fear of being taken into care.

Carers will be able to consult personal advisers in jobcentres about returning to work or combining caring and employment.

Carers of disabled children will receive more practical support and carers who are not in paid employment will also be entitled to receive national insurance credits towards a second pension.

Social workers and health workers will be required to consider the needs of carers when assessing the help required by the people they are looking after. Employers will also be expected to be more flexible and to give carers time off for emergencies.

Carers' organisations expressed concern that the proposals contained no mention of specific funds to develop and run local support centres for carers.

David Butler, chief executive of the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, said: "We want to see extra money for local authorities wanting to set up carers centres, and an assurance of continuity of funding for existing carers support projects."

Carers, however, were more enthusiastic. Nikhil Mandavia, 19, of Barnet, North London, looks after his mother, who has leukaemia, and his father, a diabetic. He does all the housework, helps with the cooking and ferries his parents to hospital appointments.

He said: "The most important thing in this for me is that they are proposing that carers get breaks, so that they can spend time with other people and lead their own life."

CHRIS ISON



Full steam ahead: John Pearse yesterday with the locomotive that inspired the Rail Brain of Britain contest

The undisputed king of all trainspotters

By Simon de Bruxelles

A TRAIN buff who spent three hours a day for eight months swotting up on his favourite subject has won the title of Rail Brain of Britain.

John Pearse, 57, a former British Rail manager, yesterday collected his modest prize, a single share in a restored 1916 tank engine. As newly crowned King of the Trainspotters, he can claim to know more about railways than almost anyone else alive.

To win against a hundred other entrants he had to answer 210 questions such as: Which European station has four different systems of electrification in operation? Even Mr Pearse was temporarily stumped by that one, racking his memory of rail networks in the Low Countries before realising the answer was next door to his birthplace in Stratford, East London. Mr Pearse, from Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, was helped by his wife, Marion, who accompanied him on expeditions to obscure libraries to find the answers.

The contest was organised by the 4247 Preservation Society to raise money to restore an 80-year-old engine rescued from a scrapyard in Barry, South Wales. Mr Pearse, who worked on the railways for 29 years until 1994, paid his £4 entry fee and was sent the 210 "train teasers", to be answered in his own time.

He said: "It was no walkover. I puzzled over some questions for ages, but I answered the lot. It did show me there were a lot of things I didn't know." Roger Wicksteed, the competition organiser, said: "He is a worthy winner. His knowledge of trains and the railway is second to none."

ARE YOU ON THE RIGHT TRACK?

1. What is the nickname of the train on the California Western Railroad ?
2. What became of Stoke Gifford marshalling yard in Bristol?
3. In 1845 which was the longest British railway tunnel?
4. How did Tim raise £800 for charity?
5. At which station can you see the Duke of Beaufort's arms on display?
6. Where hangs Turner's Rail, Steam and Speed?

ANSWERS: *1. The skunk. 2. It became Bristol Parkway station. 3. Woodhead. 4. In the early 1900s the Paddington station supervisor's dog, Tim, carried a collection box round his neck. 5. Badminton, Gloucestershire. 6. The National Gallery.*

Crash PC cleared on death charge

By Paul Wilkinson

A POLICEMAN who killed a pedestrian as he sped to answer a 999 call was yesterday cleared of causing death by dangerous driving.

PC Ian Graham had been told by his control not to attend the emergency, but he said that he did not receive the message. When he hit John Todd, 39, he was driving on the wrong side of a suburban street at more than 60mph. There was uproar among Mr Todd's family when the jury returned its verdict at Newcastle Crown Court. His weeping sister ran out shouting: "My brother's life meant nothing."

PC Graham, 26, denied that he was driving dangerously when he hit Mr Todd in Washington, Tyne and Wear, in November 1997. As he sped along the dimly lit residential street, where the limit was 30mph, he overtook a car and swerved onto the other side of the road, passing a pedestrian crossing and mounting the pavement.

Mr Todd, a fitness instructor who had a ten-year-old son and whose wife was expecting another child, was going home from work when he was hit as he stepped into the road. He died in hospital.

PC Graham's counsel, Toby Hedworth, QC, said: "He was not driving dangerously when he responded to what he assumed was an emergency."

Noye 'has lost battle to stay in Spain'

By Giles Tremlett and Stephen Farrell

KENNETH Noye is expected to learn today that he has lost his fight against extradition from Spain.

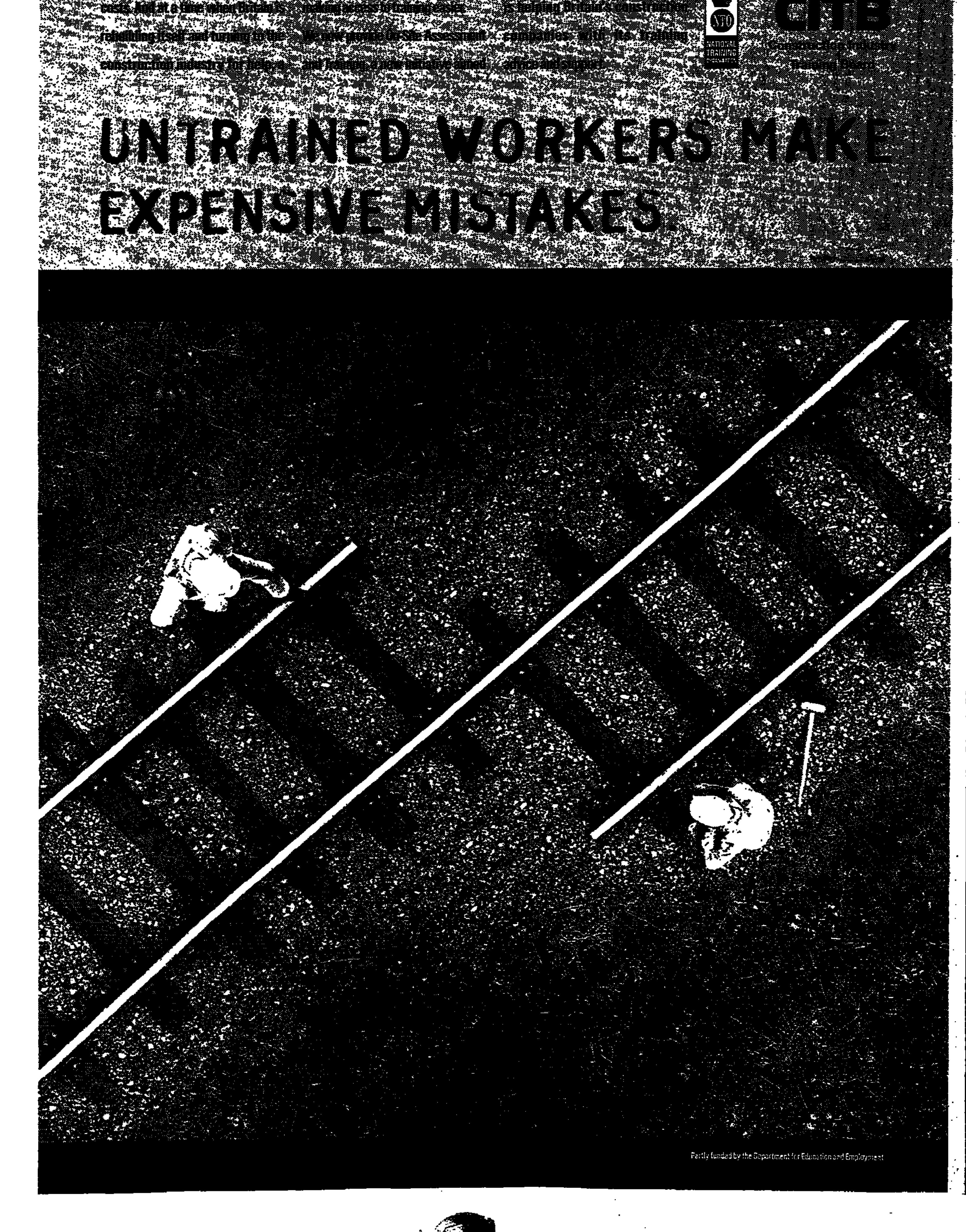
Mr Noye, 51, wanted for questioning over the M25 "road-rage" killing of Stephen Cameron, should be back in England by the summer, Spanish lawyers believe.

A Madrid court will today make public its ruling over Kent police's application to return the 51-year-old property millionaire to Britain over the death of Mr Cameron, 21, who was stabbed to death on a slip road near Swanley, Kent in May 1996.

The lawyer representing the British Embassy in Madrid, José Ramón García, said that although he had not been officially notified he believed that the court had approved the extradition request. Detective Superintendent Dennis McGookin, leading the investigation, said: "We have been advised that the extradition request will be granted."

Mr Noye's Spanish lawyer, Manuel Murillo, confirmed that if extradition had been approved he expected to present an appeal within three days.

Last week Mr Noye appeared in court in Madrid to protest his innocence and claim that he could not get a fair trial in Britain.



Teacher jailed for Spanish inquisition

Pupil's tormentor had lost earlier job, Simon de Bruxelles reports

A TEACHER who forced a boy aged 14 to lie bare-chested on drawing pins during a test on his Spanish homework was jailed yesterday for three months. When the boy answered questions wrongly, he had to perform forfeits that included having an ice cube placed on his bare chest and walking barefoot over drawing pins at the teacher's home.

Kevin Hawkins, 40, has resigned as head of modern languages at a public school in Gloucestshire. After yesterday's hearing at Stroud magistrates court, it emerged that he had lost a job at a Home Counties comprehensive in 1987 after a complaint that he had been undressing with pupils aged 12 and 13 in a storeroom during lunch breaks. At that time, his name had not been placed on the Department of Education's discretionary "List 99", which enables other schools to uncover the past of suspect teachers.

The boy in the latest incident sustained a minor puncture wound to the chest. Hawkins admitted common assault at an earlier hearing. In trying to explain the incident, Conrad Sheward, for the defence, said: "Teaching can be a very fulfilling occupation, but sometimes it can distort the development of the teacher. If you spend most of your hours with schoolchildren, sometimes you behave like a child."

Yvonne Cant, chairman of the bench, told the teacher: "The offence is so serious that custody is the only way of dealing with it, because you were a person in a position of trust and authority. At your instruction, a pupil who at the age of 14 must be considered vulnerable was subjected to a completely unprovoked assault."

The boy had been ordered to call at Hawkins's home in the school grounds after failing to hand in his homework. He was forced to perform a forfeit for every wrong answer on Spanish verbs. Martin Setchell, prosecuting, said: "The first forfeit was to stand on one leg. The second was to do press-ups. For the third, drawing pins were scattered across the floor and the boy had to remove his shoes and walk across the pins.

"Next the boy had to remove his top and lie bare chested across the drawing pins. For the next forfeit, the defendant brought in a piece of ice and put this on the boy's chest." After the five forfeits, he fled the master's home and notified the school and the police.

Hawkins told the police: "It was a crazy thing to do and I am paying the price for it." The court was told that he has now been placed on an Education Department blacklist which means he will never teach again.

The headmaster of the school, which cannot be named, said all possible checks had been made before Hawkins joined the staff. He said: "All independent schools, as indeed all state schools, are required to carry out full checks, taking up references, checking List 99 and checking against criminal records. Nothing was found to indicate that this teacher was unsuitable."


Hawkins arrives at court: he is now blacklisted


Daniel Grover's collection of tokens is boosted by his father, a postman

'Token crazy' Daniel is school's collecting star

By Hannah Betts



A SCHOOL told by inspectors that it needed more books has been performing wonders in *The Times* Free Books for Schools scheme, thanks to a one-boy collecting operation.

Daniel Grover, of Geoffrey Field Junior School, in Reading, has a secret weapon: his father is a postman who gathers up unwanted tokens on his round. In the first week of the scheme, seven-year-old Daniel amassed more than 1,000 tokens.

Charlie Clare, headteacher at the school, said: "All our children are putting their backs into the campaign, but Daniel has been the real star of the show. Our last Ofsted report said we must improve our stock of library books and this goal has become a key part of our literacy strategy."

Denise Grover, Daniel's mother, said: "Daniel has always loved books and, since *The Times* scheme started, he's been going tokens crazy. The whole post room has given their support. It's been wonderful."

Daniel's 13-year-old brother, Antony, wants the next batch of tokens to go to his school. Mrs Grover said. "He's begun saying it's not fair that Daniel's the one getting all the attention."

☐ If you have a story to tell about collecting for scheme, call our hotline on 0171-895 9018 (office hours only). For inquiries, call the helpline on 0845-604 0312.

Token, page 33

Apple for Sir falls foul of town hall sleaze clean-up

By Shirley English

TEACHERS who accept apples from grateful pupils risk falling foul of rules for employees to be adopted by a council.

The innocent classroom tradition is under threat from a code of conduct that will ban local authority employees from accepting any personal gifts or hospitality, however small. It is being introduced by East Renfrewshire council and applies to councillors and to all 3,500 employees. The measures, expected to be passed by a meeting of the full council tomorrow, have angered teachers' unions, who claim they constitute an insult to the profession.

The council says the guidelines are an effort to clean up the image of local government before the council elections in May. But critics of the catch-all code complain that it fails to differentiate between small acts of kindness and genuine attempts to bribe or corrupt.

Tino Ferri, who teaches English and Italian in Glasgow, said: "This is carrying the anti-sleaze campaign too far and to a place where it does not exist. Years ago I received a porcelain mug engraved in Latin from sixth-formers at the end of term and I still treasure it."

Mr Ferri, a member of the national executive of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, added: "What is happening in society if a child cannot show his or her appreciation for their teacher?"

The guidelines say that the council expects the highest standards of conduct and integrity from its employees and elected members. "The council is committed to the elimination of fraud and corruption. For this purpose, employees should not accept personal gifts, hospitality or legacies."

A council spokesman confirmed that the code did cover small gifts and tokens of affection from pupils to teachers, and said that problems might arise in secondary schools around examination times, when attempts might be made to influence grades with gifts.

Councillors and officials will have to refuse private gifts or gestures of hospitality from businesses. Lollipop ladies, home helps and dustmen who traditionally get small gifts at Christmas will have to turn them down with apologies.

Normal disciplinary procedures will be invoked against any employee caught breaking the rules, or anyone found to have made malicious reports against colleagues.

"There is clearly a million miles of difference between a teacher getting small gifts from pupils or a planning director getting a huge bribe from a developer. But this is a catch-all code," the council spokesman said.

PE master wins payout after assault case fails

By Richard Duce

A TEACHER who was sacked before a court cleared him of assaulting a troublesome pupil reached an out-of-court settlement worth thousands of pounds yesterday.

Peter Singlehurst, 34, took his case for unfair dismissal to an employment tribunal after he was sacked from his physical education post at a Roman Catholic school in Kent.

The St John Fisher School in Chatham ignored police advice to stay any disciplinary action until the outcome of the court case. Mr Singlehurst was eventually cleared last month of assaulting the 14-year-old boy.

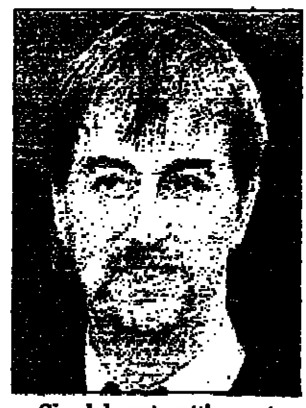
On the day his tribunal case was to be heard in Ashford, the two sides agreed a cash settlement that is understand to be near the £12,000 maximum allowed. It is believed that Mr Singlehurst will be given an agreed reference.

The pupil, now 15, who had 23 detentions in one year, has since been suspended for an unrelated matter. He accused Mr Singlehurst of grabbing him by the throat during a classroom confrontation last May after the teacher ordered him to stand with his face against the wall for disrupting the lesson.

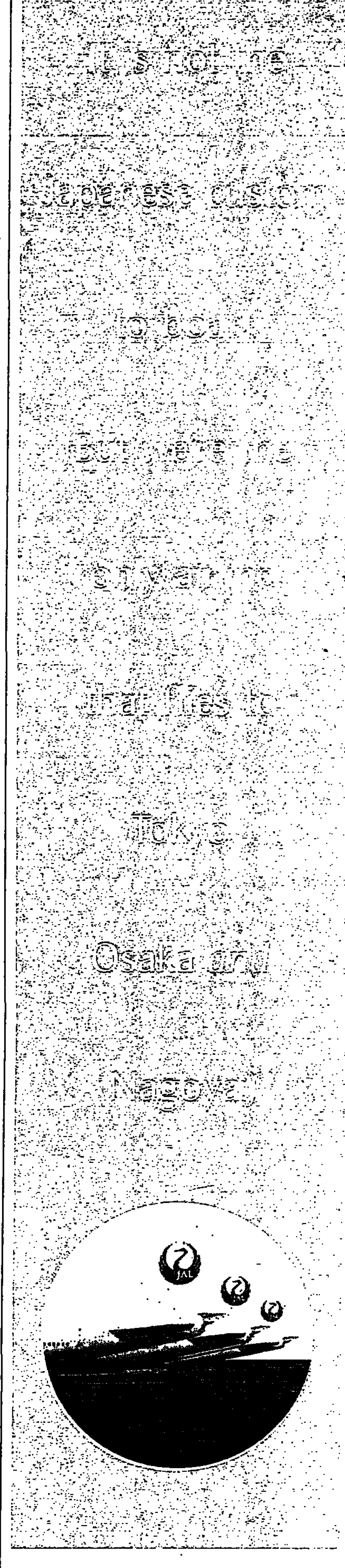
Edmund Fowler, for the prosecution at Medway Magistrates' Court, suggested to Mr Singlehurst: "Your hand went straight to his throat." Mr Singlehurst replied: "No. I put the flat of my hand on his chest."

Mr Singlehurst had been supported in court by colleagues. David Mundy, a former English teacher at the school, said of the boy: "Outside class he was pleasant enough, but inside he was belligerent and rude. On one occasion I repeatedly asked him to be quiet and he put his face within a foot of mine and told me to hit him. He was clearly egging me on."

After the settlement Mr Singlehurst said: "I can now move on with the rest of my life." He has been offered a place at Exeter University to study naval history. Keith Findlay, headteacher of the school, would not comment.


Singlehurst: settlement could be near £12,000





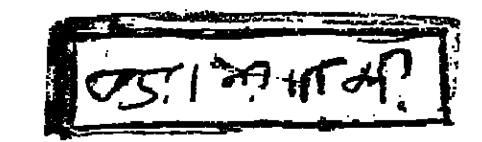
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The Lords in their hands

'Heavyweight' team must decide future role of second House, write Philip Webster and Valerie Elliott

TWO leading trade union figures, a former Tory Cabinet minister and a bishop were named yesterday as members of the Royal Commission which will decide on the shape and functions of the second House of Parliament.

The Government asserted that it had picked a "heavyweight and balanced" team to serve under the chairman, Lord Wakeham, the chairman of the Press Complaints Commission. They include *Bill* Morris, the left-wing general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

And it responded to criticism that the commission had been appointed merely to do the bidding of the Government by claiming that the membership showed that it was "not a poodle" of ministers.

The commission has been asked to report by the end of the year on the second stage of reform, and one of its members admitted yesterday that it would have "to get its skates on" to meet the deadline.

Mr Morris, one of the surprises in the names issued yesterday, is joined on the commission by Baroness Dean of Thornton-le-Fylde, who is a member of the Political Honours Scrutiny Committee and a former general secretary of the print union Sogat.

Lord Hurd of Westwell, the Tory former Foreign Secretary, is the leading Conservative on the list and has for long time taken a positive attitude to Lords reform. Dawn Oliver, who was a Liberal Democrat member of the Cook-Maclennan committee on constitutional reform before the last election, is the Liberal Democrat nominee.

The commission, which will *hold its first meeting shortly*, will make recommendations on the "role and functions" of a second chamber although its terms of reference require it to "maintain the position of the *House of Commons as the pre*eminent chamber". Its proposals will be considered by a joint committee of both Houses and ministers say they hope legislation could be passed to set up the new chamber before the next election.

The Government last night warned Tory peers against obstructing its programme, ahead of debate on the Lords reform package. Baroness Jay of Paddington, leader of the Lords, was commenting after Conservatives tabled an amendment on tomorrow's second reading of the Health Bill.

Lady Jay said: "Such a motion from the official Opposition at second reading is unprecedented since 1985.

"If this is an indication that the Opposition are withdrawing from the usual conventions of the House, that is a matter that will have to be taken into consideration when other matters more directly affecting the House of Lords are being considered."

Ministers have said that they are "minded" to support the temporary retention of 91 of the 750 hereditary peers, pending full-scale reform. But this is dependent on Tory peers not obstructing the Government's programme.

The Health Bill abolishes the NHS internal market, sets up Primary Care Trusts, establishes a Health Improvement Commission and increases the penalties for prescription fraud.

The House of Lords Bill, ending the automatic right of hereditary peers to sit and vote in the upper chamber, gained its Commons second reading last week and starts its detailed committee stage next Monday.

Lord Strathclyde, the Tory peers' leader, said: "Labour want a weak Parliament. We want a stronger one. We trust the Commission will now help deliver it.

"We hoped to see more independent academics and constitutionalists on the Commission but we trust that Lord Wakeham and Mr Kaufman will resist backstairs pressure from No 10."

He insisted: "The Commission must see the new House *maintains the spirit of the exist*ing one, and they must take evidence from the public.

"After all, Parliament exists to defend the liberties of the people. It must not act as the rubber stamp of any government, however great its majority may be."


Lord Wakeham


Gerald Kaufman

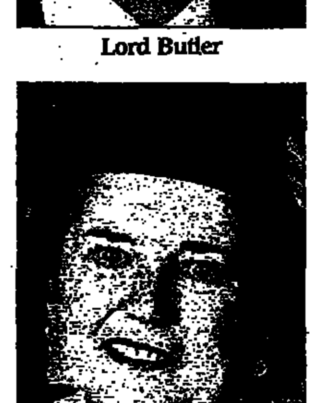

Lord Hurd

Lord Butler

Bill Morris

Anthony King


Richard Harries


Baroness Dean

Ready to think the unthinkable

Valerie Elliott examines what the ten new appointees can bring to the Royal Commission on Lords reform

The remaining ten members of the Royal Commission were named yesterday. Tony Blair had already confirmed that Lord Wakeham was to be the chairman and Gerald Kaufman, the Labour MP, had also been appointed. The ten are:

Lord Butler of Brockwell, 61, former Cabinet Secretary and now Master of University College, Oxford. Turned down the chairmanship because of a heavy commitment at the college, which is celebrating its 750th anniversary. A former custodian of the constitution, he will be a stickler for propriety and detail. Known as a smooth operator, he will ensure consensus. He and Douglas Hurd could prove a powerful axis.

Baroness Dean of Thornton-le-Fylde, 55, *the former trade* union leader who is fast becoming the female face of the new Labour Establishment. Very active in the Lords, and a member of the Privy Council *sub-committee* which vets political honours.

Lord Hurd of Westwell, 65, former Conservative Northern Ireland, Home and Foreign Secretary, who has carved a new career in international banking. Known as a thinker, he gives weight to all sides in a debate. But wedded to tradition — he hates tinkering with things that work — he could prove awkward.

The Right Rev Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford, 59. A leading liberal, extremely bright, and one of the most active senior churchmen. Likes a fight and can take on leading scientists and academics and beat them. A leading proponent of "Just War" — the Church's justification for use of war, and backed use of force against Iraq.

Sir Michael Wheeler-Booth, 65, former clerk of the Parliaments, knows more about the subject than anyone else on the commission and has heard all the arguments pro and con. For him it is a case of *déjà vu* — he was involved in the Crossman plan 30 years ago to reform the Lords when he was joint secretary of the inter-party conference on Lords reform.

Anthony King, 64, Professor of Government at University of Essex, and former member of public standards watchdog. Great value on a committee, *thinks* the unthinkable and says it. Not afraid of controversy. Will cut through humbug. Frequently tipped as a future member of Upper House.

Bill Morris, 60, general secretary of the *Transport and General Workers' Union*. His appointment is seen as a sop to the unions. Close to Gordon Brown, and has frequently caused trouble for the Labour *leadership. A Eurosceptic.*

Dawn Oliver, constitutional lawyer at University College London. The second choice for the Liberal Democrats after Julia Neuberger turned it down. She has worked hard for the party on constitutional issues, she served on the joint Labour/Lib-Dem consultative committee on constitutional reform and has worked as an aide to Robert Maclennan, the party's constitutional spokesman. A solid background figure, rewarded with some limelight.

Ann Beynon, national manager of BT Wales. A fully-fledged member of the Welsh establishment elite. Married to Leighton Andrews, Wales's leading political lobbyist and PR consultant, who organised the "Yes for Wales" campaign in the devolution referendum. A member of the Welsh Language Board and a governor of National Film and Television Council.

Kenneth Munro, chair of the Centre for Scottish Public Policy and former European Commission representative in Scotland. Worthy member of Scottish Labour establishment and rather predictable, nominee from north of the border.

Don't expect fireworks from cautious choice

Peter RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Some members of the Royal Commission were worried about how much time it would take up. They were reassured that it might involve perhaps a couple of long weekends at Ditchley, as one Cabinet minister says, only half-jokingly. They will certainly not have to spend the whole of a hot summer together as the authors of the American constitution did in Philadelphia in 1787.

The Government takes a minimalist view of the commission's work. Its function is to examine some fairly narrow questions and help to establish popular consent for long-term reform. Reform of the Lords links many strands of constitutional change: the role of Parliament, the judges, devolution and Europe. A changed second chamber could bind these together. Last month's White Paper raises these possibilities but imposes strict limits on the commission's terms of reference. The Commons alone will determine who forms a Government and its right to remain in office, must continue to have sole powers over the provision of financial support and "must ultimately have the right to secure any of its legislation introduced in the Commons with the consent of the Commons alone, except for a Bill to extend the life of a Parliament".

At present, the Lords is both legally constrained and observes self-denying ordinances over its powers. The White Paper suggests institutionalising the understandings under which the Lords operates by leaving the powers intact but restricting the circumstances under which they are used.

But "a better approach" might be to reduce the theoretically available powers, recognising that they might be used more often. This might affect the length of *time a Bill could be de*layed, the creation of formal conciliation arrangements between the two Houses and the second chamber's powers over secondary legislation.

The White Paper also gives a few nods and winks about how the commission should look at the relationship of the second chamber to the new devolved bodies and to the European Parliament. The Government wants a hybrid House, mixing nominated members, including some existing life peers, *plus some indirectly* elected and possibly elected members.

This considerably narrows the remit of the commission. There are still important issues on whether representation from the nations and regions of Britain should be of voters, legislatures or executives. So ministers are principally looking for an independent view on the balance of a mixed second chamber. Moreover, the Government will also be putting forward its own view, via a *Labour submis*sion, and ministers will not, of course, not bound by the commission's recommendations.

The membership is weighty but unadventurous, with a couple of obvious weak links. The career of Lord Wakeham, the chairman, has been marked by finding workable solutions to problems rather than by intellectual radicalism. The same is true of several other members, though Lord Hurd of Westwell could surprise given his strong views on the constitution. And Lord Butler of Brockwell, the former Cabinet Secretary, has already stated his opposition to a wholly appointed House. Sir Michael Wheeler-Booth, the former Lords clerk, is not an obvious fan *of the Government's consti*tutional programme.

Don't expect any fireworks, but rather some cautious compromises to fill in the gaps of an already well *worked-out* government plan.

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PAUL RIGERS


Menzies Campbell competed in the 1964 Olympic Games. His rivals should not underestimate his staying power

Veteran sprinter with will to win

Menzies Campbell is limbering up for the Lib Dems' leadership race. Mark Inglefield reports

MENZIES CAMPBELL'S wife has been known to describe her 57-year-old husband as the "fastest white man on earth", a reference to the time he sprinted for his country in the 1964 Olympic Games.

For this reason alone the younger hopefuls limbering up for the Liberal Democrat leadership race would be well advised not to underestimate Mr Campbell's staying power or will to win.

Certainly Menzies (pronounced Ming, as in vase) is relaxed about his elder statesman status. "I am what I am. It's a fact which will be in people's minds, but not an important one, I hope," he says.

He laughs off the fact that he is dieting to get in shape for the contest — it was reported at the weekend that he was just 7lb heavier than his physical peak. "*It's purely coinciden*tal," he says. "I walk a lot in my constituency."

Mr Campbell, a Scottish lawyer, is in appearance a million miles away from the Liberal Democrat stereotype. With his bespoke suits, Jermyn Street shirts and elegant silk ties he cuts a sartorial figure around Westminster.

"I don't know if being known for that is a good thing or not," he says. "It reminds me of what Jeremy Thorpe said. 'You should dress to the right and look to the left'."

His background, he says, is ordinary. His father was a building manager and mother a civil servant.

He is the only frontrunner who is married. His wife, Elspeth, is considered an asset, but Mr Campbell insists he would never play the marriage card. But would his wife be happy about him becoming a leader of a political party? "My wife is a great enthusiast," he says carefully.

That may be so, but friends are surprised he is even contemplating standing. He saw *at first hand the mauling Lord* Steel of Aikwood and his wife Judy were given by the press during the 1987 election campaign, and said at the time "it was not a price I would be prepared to pay". So when did he change his mind? "I think it's rather vulgar to apply for a job when there isn't a vacancy," he says.


Campbell in RAF kit: sortie was "very frightening"

Mr Campbell came late to Westminster. He won Fife North East in 1987 — his fifth attempt at a seat — at the age of 46, by when most *ambitious* MPs have already established themselves.

But he sailed through a variety of spokesman jobs before reaching his present position, *speaking on foreign affairs* and defence. He is considered an effective performer in the Commons, as well as on television. He was a close ally of Paddy Ashdown, and the only leadership contender to sit on the joint Cabinet committee. He will not be drawn on the extent to which co-operation will be continued, but speaks positively about constructive opposition.

But critics suggest that he may well find himself hampered by a lack of support among the bobble-hatted, open-toe sandalled activists who will decide the matter.

"He doesn't go to a lot of fringe meetings at party conferences, and that counts for a lot in this party," a senior Liberal Democrat says. "It will stand against him in a one member, one vote election."

Mr Campbell rejects this. "I go to all the fringe meetings that concern my areas of interest," he says.

Some say the very difference between Mr Campbell and Mr Ashdown — the Special Boat Squadron action man and the urbane, easily likeable, lawyer — could swing in his favour.

But a photograph in his Westminster office seems to say otherwise — Mr Campbell dressed up in RAF pilot kit after a sortie in a Tornado jet. All very macho. I ask about it, but his answer removes any suspicion that he is concealing the Paddy within. Meekly, he says: "It was very frightening, but I wasn't sick."

Blood scandal trio in Paris trial



Fabius: stands accused of criminal negligence

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

LAURENT FABIUS, the former French Prime Minister, and two members of his Cabinet will be tried today for manslaughter for their role in the contaminated blood scandal that spread Aids to more than 4,000 people.

The case comes 15 years after haemophiliacs in France were allegedly infected because of the criminal negligence of M Fabius and the two former Health Ministers, Georgina Dufoix and Edmond Hervé. The defendants, who face up to five years in prison if found guilty, stand as representatives of a French elite that will itself be on trial throughout the four-week hearing before the specially constituted Court of Justice of the Republic.

"In this country, where politics is at its lowest ebb, we must try the politicians," Laurent Joffrin, editor of the newspaper *Libération*, said yesterday. "It is their only chance to prove themselves innocent: it is their only chance to regain public confidence."

Victims say that the three eminent Socialists displayed the haughty nationalism that has brought the ruling Gallic caste into disrepute when they ignored warnings about the emerging Aids epidemic.

The prosecution says that in 1985 they had ultimate responsibility for a blood transfusion service that continued to seek donors in high-risk groups in prisons and red-light districts. Critics claim that the ministers refused to order officials to verify and sterilise blood products known to be at risk of contamination.

Le Monde newspaper said that they were suffering from a national delusion that Gallic blood was inherently pure. As a result, France has recorded 13 times more Aids cases among hospital patients than Britain and six times more than Germany. Of the 4,333 people who contracted Aids from contaminated blood, more than 1,000 have died.

M Fabius, 52, and the two former Health Ministers are accused of intervening to delay authorisation for an American-made HIV screening test that would have separated clean from contaminated blood. Prosecutors said that the three held up the process for several months to give the Pasteur Institute time to market its own test.

Mme Dufoix, 55, and M Hervé, 56, are also accused of failing to stop the distribution to haemophiliacs and hospitals of contaminated blood and of failing to inform patients of the risks taken.

The defendants say that they reacted as soon as officials alerted them to the dangers, and point out that France began screening blood products before many other countries, including Britain. They deny all the charges. The case is based on actions brought by seven victims, five of whom have since died and all of whom were given contaminated blood between April and September 1985. The hearing follows the 1992 trial of four senior public health officials who were given prison sentences after being found guilty of fraud in connection with the scandal.

Widespread public revulsion at the absence from the defendants' box of M Fabius and his ministers forced the authorities to set up the Court of Justice of the Republic to hear the sequel to the case seven years ago. The court is made up of three magistrates and 12 MPs.

Toreros threaten TV coup de grâce

FROM GILES TREMLETT IN MADRID

SPAIN'S armchair bullfight fans were yesterday facing the threat of a season without televised bullfighting as the country's senior toreros said they would refuse to fight in front of the cameras.

Major bullfighting figures such as Enrique Ponce, the teenage matador Julián López and top woman bullfighter Cristina Sánchez have all said they will down their capes and swords if a television camera is pointed at them.

Their refusal to fight for television threatens one of the principal afternoon pastimes of armchair, or bar-stool, Spanish fans who are used to seeing a fight a day through much of the spring and summer.

The threat from the bullfighters comes just two weeks before the Spanish bullfighting season starts.

The major toreros have no quarrel with the fees they receive from television stations but have declared the boycott in sympathy with toreros in the lower ranks, who get nothing for televised fights.

Now the Association of Bullfighters has stepped in on their behalf. It is demanding a minimum fee of £400 for taking part in a televised fight, though this may reach £7,000 in a first-class bullring.

"It is a matter of personal dignity," said Luis Francisco Esplá, the matador who leads the association. "If the organisers will not agree on this then we will have to negotiate directly with television stations."

PIERRE VERDY / AFP



The French Environment Minister's political adviser, Vincent Jacques Le Seigneur, sorts through the mess left yesterday after farmers raided the ministry's offices in Paris. The attack was part of a protest against plans to tax pesticides and reform the common agricultural policy (Adam Sage writes). The farmers also clashed with police and spread dung in the Ecole Nationale d'Administration, a college for trainee civil servants and diplomats. M Le Seigneur said: "The offices have been ransacked. The floor is covered in flour, the cupboards have been overturned and the ministerial papers have been thrown out of the window." The Minister, Dominique Voynet, called the action scandalous. Police said that they had arrested more than 200 farmers, 15 of whom were in custody.

French farmers raid ministry

Mobile threat to Kosovo diplomacy

Telephone technology is frustrating efforts to isolate peace delegates, writes **Tom Walker** in Rambouillet

DIPLOMATS at the Kosovo peace talks said yesterday that the widespread use of mobile phones by Serb and Albanian delegates supposedly negotiating in isolation was bedevilling the process.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and his French counterpart, Hubert Védrine, will attempt to push the pace of the conference at a working lunch today, but curbing the use of mobile phones could be of more immediate benefit.

At the 1995 Dayton peace conference that brought peace to Bosnia, mobile phones also posed a problem. But the remoteness of the Ohio airforce base and the relative shortage of phones contained the nuisance they caused.

Four years on, mobiles have become a standard tool of Balkan politicians, especially in Yugoslavia where the terrestrial telephone system is in a state of disrepair. The delegates have found that their mobiles pick up the local French networks at the heavily-guarded château, and they have been busy spinning their version of the talks to the dozens of partisan Serb and Albanian journalists outside.

Mobile links helped the Serb delegates to put out a story claiming that the Albanians had signed up on the first day of talks to the principle that Kosovo should stay within Yugoslavia.

This red-herring dominated the evening press briefing and annoyed the British, French and American spokesmen trying to control the flow of information.

Likewise, their attempts to cover up stories that the chief Albanian negotiator was a Kosovo Liberation Army leader were undone by mobile contacts between Rambouillet and Pristina, which confirmed the news. The main Albanian interpreter in the château is, in fact, a journalist with the biggest selling Kosovo daily newspaper, *Koha Ditore*, which splashed the development.

On B92 radio in Belgrade yesterday, bulletins carried rumours that mobile phones were being confiscated by French security staff, but diplomats said that delegates had been merely requested to turn their handsets off at certain crucial moments.

"Technically we could scan them all with metal detectors, but they are confined to the château and in this day and age you have to ask yourself if you really can shut people like Deputy Prime Ministers off in this way," said a diplomat involved in the talks. "And what if the Serbs want to talk to Milosevic? They have to keep some links open."

Indeed, the Yugoslav delegation has been angered by French protocol, and so far there have been no links established between Rambouillet and President Milosevic of Yugoslavia because of security fears.

The Yugoslavians complained that their logistical support team was unable to set up secure telephone lines in a nearby motel offered by the French, which they claimed was a brothel.

"They went back to Paris and are still looking for somewhere where they can install their equipment," said a Serb journalist who keeps in regular contact with the delegation inside the château by mobile phone and then relays messages to the support unit.

Belgrade newspapers yesterday also carried the news that the French Defence Ministry had declared the area over the château and its grounds a no-fly zone.

Airborne surveillance of the conference was in any case impossible yesterday as a snowstorm descended on Rambouillet.

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£100,000-£249,999	3.15%	2.65%	3.19%	2.68%
£25,000-£99,999	2.95%	2.45%	2.98%	2.47%
£10,000-£24,999	2.35%	1.85%	2.37%	1.86%
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Russia to open icy way to Asia

FROM ALICE LAGNADO IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA is to launch new polar air routes that would mean faster flights from Europe and America to Asia.

A route is planned from Britain to Japan that would save up to 1½ hours on a flight that usually takes 11 hours, 40 minutes. Routes from the US to Asia have already been tried out. Last July Cathay Pacific flew from New York to Hong Kong in 15½ hours, cutting flying time by 5½ hours. Experts estimate up to 400 flights per week could use the routes.

The Russians have been carrying out test flights since last summer and expect foreign planes to start cruising over the North Pole from next year.

Leonid Shcherbakov, the head of state air control, said yesterday that his department was working on a London-Tokyo route which could save between 40 minutes and 1½ hours.

Russia is hoping to profit from the new routes. Yuri Averyanov, deputy head of state air control, said polar flights through Russian airspace could earn the country $200 million (£123 million) between 2000 and 2010.





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Senate agonises on rebuke to Clinton

As the President awaits his acquittal, support grows for censure, writes Damian Whitworth in Washington

AS CLOSING arguments began in Bill Clinton's trial last night, senators intensified their attempts to find agreement on a way of rebuking the President after his inevitable acquittal this week.

Democratic senators, many of whom have wanted to abandon the trial and censure Mr Clinton since the proceedings began, hope Republicans will join them in a condemnation of the President when the trial ends on Thursday or Friday. *But there is opposition from* some Republicans who believe such a move is unconstitutional and smacks of face-saving by politicians who want to be seen to deplore Mr Clinton's conduct but do not have the courage to convict and remove him from office.

"Impeachment is about the Constitution. Censure is about getting political cover," said Phil Gramm, a Republican senator from Texas. "They want to be on both sides of the issue. They want to say the President is not guilty. They want to say he's guilty."

Opening the prosecution's remarks, James Sensenbrenner, a Wisconsin Republican, said the trial was not caused by those arguing the case, or Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor. "Regardless of what others might say, this was caused by William Jefferson Clinton, no one else."

He said it was not about the Lewinsky affair but perjury and obstruction of justice, and that acquitting Mr Clinton would set a dangerous precedent, *sending the country on a* path "back towards an imperial presidency above the law".

Keeping Mr Clinton in *office, he went on, when he* was guilty of criminal conduct would "undermine the authority of the President, undermine the rule of law and cheapen those words that have set America apart: equal justice under law".

However, support appeared to be growing for a motion of censure endlessly redrafted by Robert Bennett, a Republican, and Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat, which would state that *Mr Clinton's behaviour had* been "shameless, reckless and indefensible" and that he had "deliberately misled and deceived the American people".

The carefully crafted denunciation would not say that Mr Clinton was guilty of charges he faces in the trial — perjury and obstruction of justice — but that he "gave false and misleading testimony and impeded discovery of evidence in judicial proceedings".

Mr Bennett said that most senators favoured censure and wanted "to leave some kind of *formal statement* of indignation and outrage over what this President has done".

With the videotaped deposi*tions from Monica Lewinsky,* Vernon Jordan and Sidney Blumenthal apparently failing to convince any more senators *that Mr Clinton should go, it* is clear that the required two thirds of the 100-member body will not find him guilty. The only question is how many Republicans will side with Democrats and vote for acquittal.

Democrats hope that a censure motion could be brought to the Senate on Friday after votes on the articles of impeachment on Thursday.

There is likely to be argument today over whether or not to open debate on the arti*cles of impeachment to the* public. Some Republicans are wary of a televised debate in which Democrats are expected to condemn them for prolonging the trial — a view likely to appeal to the public, who dearly wish it would end.

Michael Gove, page 16

CARTOONISTS & WRITERS SYNDICATE



Ammer's view of the Republican Party's dilemma in the Austrian newspaper *Wiener Zeitung*

Hero on the $1 bill gets a $3m facelift

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

NEVER before has there been such a campaign to save the image of a President. He will be marketed like a pop star. Tens of thousands of communities across America will be encouraged to hold celebrations of his achievements. The press will *be deluged with positive* stories. Robert Redford is even thinking of making a film of his life.

For George Washington, first President of the United States, it is time for a serious $3 million (£1.8 million) makeover. Two hundred years after his death, the man who won the War of Independence, had the capital named after him, and gives people the world over a patrician look every time they pull out a $1 note, is to receive the attentions of a marketing team and the spin doctors.

His problem is that people *do not really know who he* was. At a push they remember that he was the first President or that he appears on "greenbacks." But that's it. In polls for the greatest Presidents, Washington does not get a look in. (Abraham Lincoln, John F. Kennedy and Franklin D. Roosevelt are the top three.)

"He had great name-recog*nition,* but not a high quotient of excitement. Dull, boring. He was the first Presi*dent, of course. So what?*" said Michael Quinn, deputy director of programmes at Mount Vernon, Washington's home on the banks of the Potomac River near the city that bears his name. "He was a victim of his success. He made it look too easy."

The difficulty — and President Clinton may or may not *find this comforting* — is that people tend to remember a President who has a whiff of scandal about him. Thomas *Jefferson, said to have sired a* child by his slave, Sally Hemings, is always being written about and made the subject of television programmes and films. The fact that recent DNA tests appear to prove the stories has boosted his fame even more. The childless, untarnished Washington just cannot compete.

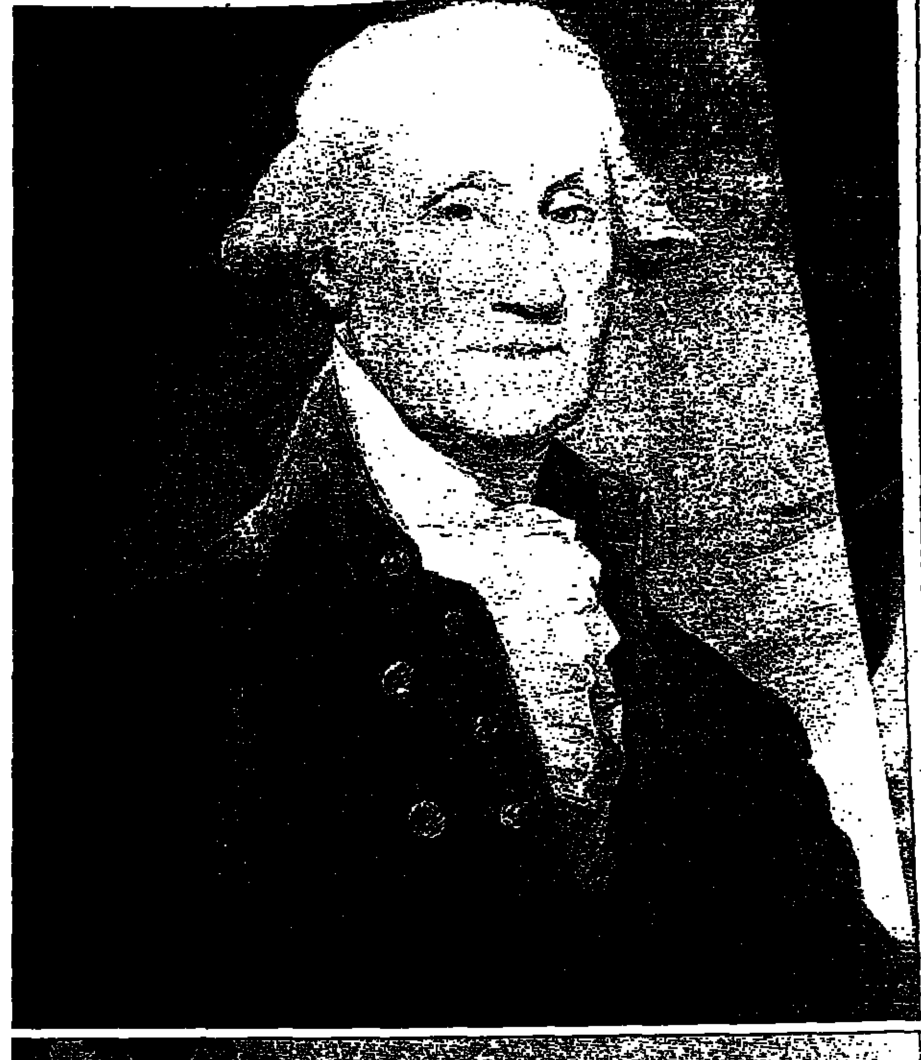
But Mr Quinn insists that perceptions can be changed. "He actually had one of the more interesting lives you can imagine," he said.

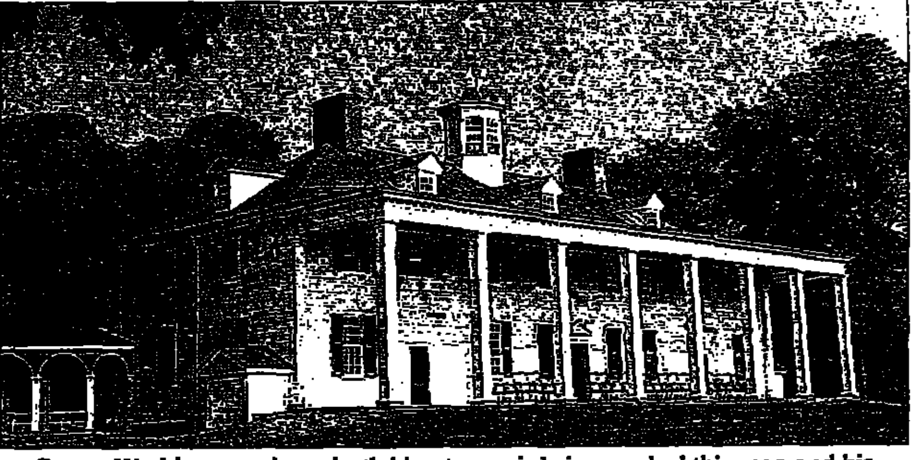
To mark the bicentenary of Washington's death, the marketing team at Mount Vernon will emphasise a rags-to-riches story, from self-taught surveyor to brilliant general to statesman. His importance as an architect — even though Mount Vernon is surprisingly modest — and his work as a farmer and environmentalist will be trumpeted. An exhibition of artefacts is touring the country with such gems as his ivory teeth, two new websites are up and new books are heading for the shops.

About 50,000 communities are to be encouraged to mark the bicentenary by planting trees and ringing bells. A *full-scale period state funeral* is also to be staged for television. "We're going to try to make it feel like the Diana funeral," said Melissa Groppel, manager of special events.



www.gwashington1999.org — the official George Washington bicentennial celebrations website.
www.whitehouse.gov/WH/glimpse/top.html — the official White House George Washington website.
www.earlyamerica.com/lives/gwlife/index.html — David Ramsay's *Life of George Washington.*





George Washington, whose death bicentenary is being marked this year, and his home, Mount Vernon, on the Potomac near the capital that bears his name

US military relics anger Panama

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN PANAMA CITY

FOR almost a century America's military has used the rainforest beside the Panama Canal for target practice and to test explosives, including chemical weapons.

But, as the United States prepares to hand over the canal and its bases by the end of this year, it says that it cannot clean *up all the hazardous munitions* left behind. Buried in the rainforest are an unknown number of UXOs — unexploded ordnance — that the Pentagon says cannot be removed. Although about 30,000 acres, the bulk of the ranges, are being swept clean, it says another 7,000 will have to be fenced as off-limits. After December 31 it will be Panama's problem.

Outraged Panamanians say that is not good enough. They are backed by a growing number of American voices, including the former President Jimmy Carter who signed the 1977 Panama Canal Treaties that set the timetable for US departure. "We are walking away from our responsibilities there," said John Lindsay-Poland, director of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, a San Francisco-based peace group.

The US presence has always been controversial. To get the canal built, it manu*factured the separation of Panama from* Colombia in 1903, then created its own colony around the waterway. In America resentment at handing back the canal lingers; Mr Carter recently ackowledged that signing the 1977 treaties was one of his most unpopular moves.

Officials reject accusations that America has failed to meet its Canal Treaties obligations, including taking all "practicable" measures to remove hazards. Uneven and dense jungle terrain is said by military officials to make it technically impossible to clean all "impact areas". To find buried UXOs would require cutting down vegetation, causing untold damage to a delicate environment.

Experts say that the Pentagon is exaggerating the technical difficulty and environmental risk to avoid paying for a proper clean-up. Panamanians, who say their *country — population 2.7 million* — lacks the resources to tackle UXOs, worry about the risk to human life, pointing out that at least 21 people have been killed and others maimed by leftover explosives.

US officials can find records of only seven deaths, and some feel the Central Americans should be more grateful; the United States is, after all, leaving behind property with an estimated market value of $4 billion (£2.5 billion).

Safe after 12-day snow ordeal

Leavenworth, Washington: A pair of boots sticking out of the snow led to the rescue of a couple who had been missing for 12 days after a snowmobile excursion went tragically wrong.

George Back, 50, was hallucinating and frostbitten but alive when found beside his two barking Norfolk terriers at the weekend. His wife, Diane McManus, 44, was dead. Mr Back and his wife had rented two snowmobiles on January 27 near Fish Lake, about 80 miles east of Seattle.

They tucked the dogs inside their snow suits for what they had expected to be a two-hour outing. They became lost when a storm closed in and a search for the couple was called off two days later.

Two men who were riding snowmobiles in the area on Sunday spotted Mr Back's booted feet sticking out of a hole that he had formed in the snow. "He thought he had been there six months and was afraid we were going to leave him," one the men said. *(AP)*

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E[illegible]itrea border clashes spread

[illegible] Lodge in Addis Ababa rep[illegible] on diplomatic alarm as E[illegible]an tanks and jets attack



FIG[illegible]ween Ethiopi-an a[illegible] forces spread to t[illegible]nts yesterday, with[illegible] accusing the othe[illegible] first.

F[illegible] clashes at the weeke[illegible]nd the Eritrean-occu[illegible]ave of Badme on the [illegible] section of the 600-[illegible]rder, there were new[illegible]ks of heavy fighting ye[illegible]y around the central [illegible]t Tsorona, and the easte[illegible]nt near Burie.

Ethi[illegible] said its ground forces, [illegible]pported by fighter planes, were engaged in extensive counter-offensives on all fronts. A government spokeswoman, Selome Taddesse, said Ethiopian artillery had destroyed an Eritrean radar station at Tsorona, inflicting unspecified casualties.

She gave no word on Ethiopian military losses, but said that seven civilians had been seriously injured during Eritrean shelling of the town of Adigrat, carried out "in a desperate measure to compensate for losses on the battlefield".

Eritrea, for its part, said hundreds of Ethiopian soldiers had been killed since the fighting started on Saturday with 250 killed in Sunday's clashes alone. Dozens more had been taken prisoner. It said Eritrean forces were continuing to hold their ground against attacks from Ethiopia in the Tsorona region.

Zemiret Yohannes, a senior Eritrean government official, said: "They are trying to attack our trenches with tanks, artillery and troops. They have not reached our trenches." There were no independent reports on the fighting.

Salim Ahmed Salim, the Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity, yesterday called on both sides "to immediately put an end to the current fighting" and accept an OAU peace plan that was drafted in November.

He called on leaders of both countries "to exercise restraint . . . and do everything in their power to avert a further escalation of the conflict".

The latest fighting broke an uneasy ceasefire that has more or less prevailed since hundreds of people were killed in artillery exchanges and bombing raids last May. Tension has been heightened in recent weeks by Eritrean refusal to withdraw from territory occupied during the May clashes.

Only a week ago the Eritrean side pledged not to fire the first shot in renewed fighting, an offer dismissed by the Ethiopians, who said Eritrea had already opened hostilities by occupying territory and that action by Ethiopia would be purely in self-defence.

In the event, each side blamed the other for breaking the ceasefire. Ethiopia first accused Eritrea of carrying out bombing raids on Friday against Ethiopian positions near Badme. Eritrea denied this and said that Ethiopia had started the offensive with ground troops backed by helicopter gunships.

Kofi Annan, the United Nations Secretary-General, said the fighting was "completely unacceptable to the international community" and called on both sides to to find a peaceful solution.

Eritrea fought a 30-year war of independence against Ethiopia from the 1960s, effectively winning independence in 1991, formally confirmed by a referendum two years later.

[illegible]ore journalists arrested after [illegible]ugabe outburst

FROM JAN RAATH IN HARARE

[illegible]E Zimbabwean authorities [illegible]ved swiftly yesterday in the [illegible]ke of President Mugabe's [illegible]reats to his critics, arresting [illegible]ree more journalists and the [illegible]wner of the independent [illegible]ewspaper they write for.

There were fears that the four — including a woman reporter and the editor, who is disabled — would be handed to military and secret police who tortured another reporter and editor last month for reporting an alleged coup plot.

Detectives arrested Grace Kwinjeh of the *Mirror*, followed by Fernando Goncalves, the managing editor, a Mozambican, Farayi Mungazi, a former editor, and Ibbo Mandaza, the owner.

Police said they would be questioned over a report in October about the body of a Zimbabwean soldier killed in the war in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The *Mirror* said relatives opened the coffin and found only the man's head. Military officials denied the report and said they disinterred the body to disprove it.

Trevor Harris, the assistant editor, said lawyers had been allowed to see the three journalists at Harare central police station. "Everybody is a little scared, given what happened the previous time. There are real concerns about the well-being of our people." All four were charged with causing "alarm and despondency". Mr Goncalves and Mr Mungazi were released.

At the weekend Mr Mugabe broke his silence over the illegal detention and torture of the editor and a reporter of the *Zimbabwe Standard* over their report of a military coup plot. He denounced senior judges who questioned his commitment to the rule of law, said British agents had infiltrated to undermine the Government, told whites to "atone for their evil past" and warned the independent press of "very stern measures" for their "insidious acts of sabotage".

His outburst made it clear he endorsed the illegal arrest and assault of the two journalists last month. Both were released and an independent medical report said they had been severely tortured. They have also been charged with causing "alarm and despondency" under legislation used by Rhodesia to silence demands for black majority rule.

Mr Mugabe later left Harare for a two-week tour that is expected to take him to Britain, Jamaica and the US.

Leading article, page 17

AP



Cedric Tornay during his swearing-in to the Vatican's Swiss Guard in May 1995

Vatican killer had 'traces of cannabis'

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

AFTER a nine-month inquiry, the Vatican yesterday said that the case of a Swiss Guard who killed his commanding officer and then shot himself was closed, and suggested for the first time that the murderer had been under the influence of cannabis.

A summary of the judicial findings confirmed the Vatican's assertion, immediately after the tragedy last May, that Vice-Corporal Cedric Tornay, 23, killed Colonel Alois Estermann, 44, the newly appointed head of the Pope's protection force, and his wife Gladys, 49, in a "fit of madness".

It said that Vice-Corporal Tornay was mentally unstable, had felt persecuted by Colonel Estermann, and resented being passed over for a military honour.

Muguette Baudat-Tornay, Vice-Corporal Tornay's mother, contested the Vatican's conclusions, insisting that her son had been "framed" as part of a Vatican plot to eliminate the new commander.

Nicola Picardi, the Vatican lawyer who led the inquiry, said traces of cannabis were found in Vice-Corporal Tornay's body after the murder.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Flood toll reaches 20 in Philippines

Manila: Flash floods killed 20 people and displaced more than 110,000 families in the Caraga region on the island of Mindanao, officials in the Philippines said yesterday. Rain has been continuous for four days although the floods were starting to recede in some parts, the officials said, and the Government was considering declaring a "state of calamity".

Landslides and collapsed bridges isolated some towns, and wide areas of Butuan, the largest city in the region, were without power, they added. The National Disaster Coordinating Council said damage totalled 123 million pesos (£2 million) in the four rice and corn-growing provinces that make up the region. *(Reuters)*

Tamils in sea battle

Colombo: Sri Lankan naval gunboats destroyed two Tamil Tiger rebel boats and damaged another four in a battle off the northern Jaffna peninsula, naval officials said. State radio said 15 rebels were killed, but the officials said they were unsure of guerrilla casualties. Four sailors were wounded. The battle started when patrol ships engaged two rebel boats believed to be transporting supplies near the Delft islands, 181 miles north of the Colombo. *(Reuters)*

Nazi's sentence eased



Rome: A Rome military court granted house arrest to the convicted Nazi war criminal Erich Priebke, left, who is 86 and in poor health, the Italian news agency Ansa reported. The former SS captain was convicted last year for his role in the 1944 massacre of 335 civilians at the Ardeatine Caves outside Rome and sentenced to life. He had been serving his sentence in the Forte Boccea military prison in Rome. *(AP)*

Christians killed

Delhi: Two Christian teenagers were killed and another was critically wounded in an area of India's east that has experienced a spate of recent attacks directed at the country's Christian minority, according to reports yesterday. The unidentified attackers attempted to rape one of the victims, a girl, before killing her and another boy, a newspaper quoted the Orissa state police as saying. *(AP)*

Tibetans can 'betray'

Delhi: The Dalai Lama is advising Tibetans to give in to Chinese pressure to denounce him, saying it would not be considered a betrayal. His spokesman in the northern Indian city of Dharmsala said that the spiritual leader, exiled there since fleeing from Tibet in 1959, had given the advice to more than 1,000 refugees. They were among three groups that he had met at different times during the past three months. *(AP)*

Rats catch out China

Beijing: The northern Chinese region of Ningxia is warning of a "rat disaster" as the number of rodents increases and tonnes of wheat are being destroyed, the *Farmers' Daily* reported. Officials recorded a loss of 92 million pounds of grain last year. China blames a decline in the number of cats, foxes, snakes and eagles for the increase in rats. *(AFP)*

Britain tells Taleban to curb bin Laden

Islamabad: Britain told Afghanistan's Taleban rulers yesterday to "get control of" Osama bin Laden, the Saudi who is suspected of planning terrorist attacks on American and British targets.

The message was delivered by Derek Fatchett, the Foreign Office Minister, in the first ministerial-level talks between the Islamic militia and the British Government. Mr Fatchett told reporters that his talks with Abdul Rahman Zahid, the Deputy Foreign Minister, covered bin Laden, human rights and drugs.

"It is important for them [the Taleban] to get control of bin Laden. We expect them to do so," said Mr Fatchett, on a three-day visit to Pakistan. His message followed similar talks last week between another Taleban Deputy Foreign Minister, Mullah Abdul Jalil, and Karl Inderfurth, the US Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs.

Taleban says that bin Laden, accused of masterminding the August bombings of US embassies in East Africa, is a guest who had lived in Afghanistan before it swept to power in 1996. Mr Fatchett's warning comes after speculation that bin Laden might seek to avenge the Anglo-US airstrikes on Iraq. *(Reuters)*

Anwar insists he is victim of a plot

FROM DAVID WATTS IN KUALA LUMPUR

THE Malaysian Government has brought in the Attorney-General to conduct its flagging case against the country's former Deputy Prime Minister, depriving Anwar Ibrahim of a key defence witness.

However, Mr Anwar looked relaxed and confident on the first day of the defence case and, seemingly strengthened by the evidence of government disarray, acted as though the Government was on trial, spiking his evidence with comments about the police and the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

His intention was to uncover a "high-level conspiracy" against him after his period as head of the Anti-Corruption Agency earned him numerous political enemies. He said that he had received evidence of corruption by several ministers, including Dr Mahathir.

For Tan Sri Mohtar Abdullah, the Attorney-General, it is a last-ditch attempt to save the credibility of the Government and the reputation of his department after the collapse of sodomy allegations against Mr Anwar. On yesterday's showing, the Government will be hard-pressed to make corruption charges stick.

But if the prosecution has problems, then so does the defence; one lawyer faces jail for possible contempt, and Mr Anwar has been warned not to reveal government secrets and thus breach the Official Secrets Act.

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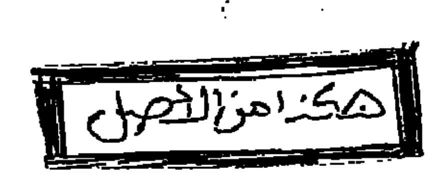
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How I share the trauma of Mo's childhood

Mo Mowlam has spoken of her agony as the child of an alcoholic. Here the poet **William Ayot** tells of the abuse inflicted by his father

It is three in the morning and I am sitting on the floor, looking at my father who has passed out, legless, in front of the fire. I have tried to get him to bed but he is too heavy. I am with him because I feel responsible but beyond that I am not feeling anything. I am 12 years old and I am totally numb.

If this scene from my childhood seems familiar, you may be an adult-child, someone whose development was arrested by their parents' drinking. If you don't know what normal is and you are addicted to excitement: if you are over-loyal and stay in abusive situations long after anyone else would have left: if you are a "people-pleaser" yet have a need to control everything, then you may well have had an alcoholic parent.

Mo Mowlam, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, has spoken of her childhood with her alcoholic father. "I think it is important for kids growing up in alcoholic families to see that if I can do this and get through it, then so can they," she says.

Her way of coping with the difficulties was to immerse herself in education. I took a different route.

I was 37 before I admitted that my father had been an alcoholic. Until then, denial had kept me in a kind of emotional deep-freeze. It was the death of a friend that eventually pitched me into the healing process people call recovery. Before my friend died, he had given me a book on ACoAs (Adult Children of Alcoholics). Reading it after his death, I discovered that I wasn't alone. I started to attend meetings of self-help fellowship where I met other adult-children who talked openly about their experiences. Gradually, I began to reclaim my life.

It has only recently been recognised that parental drinking can have a disastrous effect on a growing child, so much so that the long-term effects are now seen as something akin to post-traumatic stress disorder — the "survivor's syndrome".

The sheer unpredictability of a drunken parent can send a child into shock and it can take up to 24 hours for the adrenalin to clear the system. If this is repeated too soon, the child will stay in shock and if the parent drinks habitually, the child can remain in an adrenal state almost indefinitely. This has been called "chronic shock". People with this problem go numb and lose touch with their feelings. Survivors of alcoholic families often admit that they have never, ever cried.

> He would order me to strip as he verbally abused me

For me the process of recovery was one of slowly uncovering the hurts of the past. Week after week, I would spend hours in self-help groups and therapists' rooms, learning to be angry and learning to grieve. I discovered that my feelings, when they surfaced, were not only natural but acceptable. I had nothing to be ashamed of.

Yet I was living in an almost permanent state of shame. Constant criticism, denigration and mockery meant that I had learnt to think of myself as worthless. When my father was drunk he became another person and the level of emotional violence was sometimes horrific. During my early teens he would order me to strip naked while he verbally abused me about the state of my body. He would shout at me, snarling that I was fat, ugly, and disgusting. The shame of this ate into me. By the time my father died, when I was 15, my self-esteem was virtually non-existent. I was unable to defend myself.

Some people are so traumatised by childhood experiences that they cannot remember anything before the age of 12. This kind of amnesia has a purpose — it stops you going insane — but it often takes years of recovery before you are able to deal with the memories that resurface. In my case, I had a surfeit of memories. By my mid-thirties, I was experiencing recurring nightmares and "flashbacks" of emotional abuse. I was tormented by memories of my father's drinking and what he did when we were alone together.

Within a year of starting my recovery, the deeper issue of sexual abuse came up. I had been sexually abused by my father and although it was only minor abuse, when you are a child that is irrelevant.

The grief of this discovery — no, this admission — is beyond anything I have ever experienced. I became paralysed, unable to move in any direction without falling into a black hole of despair and self-loathing. Fortunately I was blessed with a support network of friends who spent long hours listening to me, helping me to make sense of my experience.

Adult-children will do anything rather than feel the pain of their childhood experience. Many become alcoholics or drug addicts themselves, or turn to other addictive behaviours such as spending, gambling or sex.

I was no exception: food, pornography, workaholism, even television; I became an expert at avoiding my pain. The irony was that it was only by feeling the pain that I could move on and stop living my life as a victim.

At this point I discovered the work of Robert Bly, the American poet. I went to a workshop which helps men to understand and explore their feelings and found a community of men who were willing to help me. Bly touched me more deeply than any other teacher I had ever met.

That weekend he left me with an image which turned my life around. He was talking about the different kinds of pain that we all carry when he said that the challenge for people like myself was to "turn our wounds into gold", to use our experience of the dark side of life to heal others. Within a year I had left my job of 25 years (I had worked in London's casino industry) and started working in addiction centres with men, using poetry and storytelling as a way of changing my life.

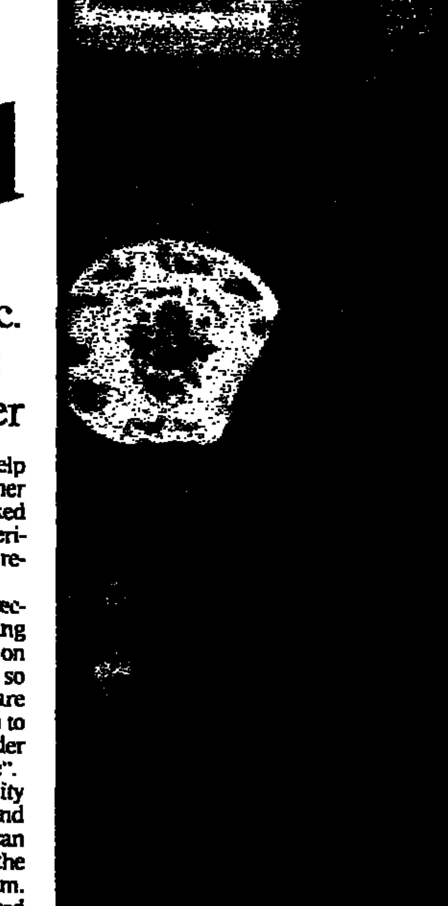
New research throws up more information. I have used a full spread of therapies, from psychotherapy groups on the NHS through to off-the-wall alternative healers. I have also benefited from the anonymous 12-step fellowships, including Al-Anon, ACoA and ACA.

Talking to other men about their grief and isolation has also helped me hugely. I believe that each individual should mix and match these options to their own needs.

I have rediscovered my creativity and, most importantly, I have been given the chance to explore a relationship with a woman whose patience and understanding are a wonder to me. I couldn't have dreamt of that ten years ago.

● *William Ayot is director of London's* Poems on the Buses *programme.*

● *National Association for Children of Alcoholics 0117 924 8005; Al-Anon 0171-403 0888, ACA 0171-229 4587; Men's workshops Wild Dance Events 0171-813 4260*

Mo Mowlam speaking about her alcoholic father: "I think it is important for kids growing up in alcoholic families to see that if I can do this and get through it, then so can they"

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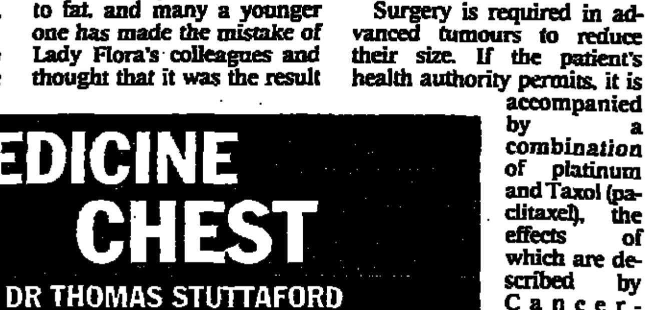
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Legacy of Lady Flora



Of what did Lady Flora Hastings die in 1839? She certainly was not pregnant, as had been assumed by a waspish court. Not only had the court physician, Sir James Clark, pronounced that she was a virgin, but she had, by the time of her death, been looking as if she was with child for at least two years.

It was suggested in *The Times*'s intriguing account of keepsakes given by Queen Victoria to her nanny, Baroness Luise Lehzen, that Lady Flora, a lady-in-waiting to the Queen, might have had cancer of the liver.

Liver disease is indeed a possibility, but the usual explanation is that she was suffering from an ovarian tumour. The question normally asked in medical circles is whether it was benign, and its progressive increase in girth was the result of the actual cyst, or malignant and a consequence of ascites, a fluid that collects in the peritoneal cavity. Although present in many conditions, including malignancies and abdominal tuberculosis, ascites is a particular feature of ovarian tumours.

There is a twist to the problem, however: one of the benign ovarian tumours, a fibroma, may also cause massive ascites. This is Meig's syndrome, in which there is not only the fibroma but also ascites and hydrothorax, fluid in the chest. Lady Flora, who died at the age of 33, was young to be suffering from Meig's syndrome, which usually affects women about 15 years older.

Poor Lady Flora — she was falsely accused and became the butt of cruel jokes spread by those, including Baroness Lehzen, who thought that she was not only a spy for Queen Victoria's mother, the Duchess of Kent, but also the illicit lover of Sir John Conroy, the Duchess's adviser. Lady Flora, nevertheless, had to go, and died soon after.

Queen Victoria is said to have been affected all her life by this injustice but Lady Flora is not forgotten — the story of her swollen abdomen, and the problems in diagnosis it presented, is told to generation after generation of medical students.

Ovarian tumours grow insidiously, and patients who have them tend to seek help late. If a tumour grows, for instance, in the skull or chest, its expansion rapidly causes pressure in the confined space. But if a tumour grows in the pelvis, it is able to expand upwards into the abdomen and there is plenty of room for it to become large before it causes symptoms from pressure.

The pelvis and abdomen are accustomed, indeed designed, to accommodate expanding masses. Day by day the bladder waxes and wanes — as does the colon — and in a woman can contain a growing womb. Little surprise, therefore, that only when the tumour is very large, or the collection of fluid immense, does it cause trouble. Older women are likely to attribute an increasing abdominal size to fat, and many a younger one has made the mistake of Lady Flora's colleagues and thought that it was the result of pregnancy. Early diagnosis and treatment remain the best hope of a cure. Between 60 and 80 per cent of women identified with small tumours survive for five years. Unfortunately, three out of four tumours are diagnosed only at a much later stage, when surgery alone is unlikely to be effective. In the UK every year 6,000 women have ovarian cancer diagnosed, and more than 4,000 will eventually die from it — one of the worst sets of results in Europe. According to CancerBACUP, many of these deaths occur because patients are denied state-of-the-art treatment.

Surgery is required in advanced tumours to reduce their size. If the patient's health authority permits, it is accompanied by a combination of platinum and Taxol (paclitaxel), the effects of which are described by CancerBACUP as giving an "unprecedented survival advantage, which should now be considered the gold-standard treatment".

It results in a 70 per cent remission rate and, on average, an additional year of life — with a very much better quality of life in the patient's remaining years.

With this dual therapy of surgical reduction and combined chemotherapy, the long-term outlook for all cases of ovarian cancer would improve.

This treatment is described as "first-line" therapy; "second-line" therapy is given when initial treatment has failed. Taxol can be given as a single agent in second-line therapy. Either of two different platinum compounds can be used— cisplatin or carboplatin. The former has rather more side-effects than carboplatin, which is more expensive. Other pharmaceutical agents such as topotecan and gemcitabine are likely to be useful but they, like the platinum/Taxol combination therapy, will probably tax the NHS budget.

It is hard to put a value on an extra year of life, and on an easier end for a woman dying of ovarian cancer, but if I were doctor to a latter-day Lady Flora, I would want her to have Taxol/platinum as a first-line treatment. If those who hold the Treasury keys have other views, it is perhaps for them, and not for the patients' doctors, to shoulder the responsibility for the time and nature of a patient's death.





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♂ What *women* want from men ♀

You laugh in bed? Perfect

With Valentine's Day looming, **Erica Jong** considers whether there is any such thing as the ideal man — and whether women would want him

A man in the house is worth two in the street — Mae West

The perfect man, for any woman, is the man who loves her constantly, passionately and well; who adores and admires her; is reliable and exciting; an earthly Adonis and a heavenly father figure; a beautiful son; a Bacchic lover and a calm, sober, but funny friend. Can you find all these attributes in one man? Not bloody likely!

So what's a woman to do? Having two or three men seems to be the answer, but it creates so many logistical snafus. What happens when lover No 1 and lover No 2 arrive on the same train for the same weekend? Nobody can spend 100 per cent of her time getting laid, arranging to get laid, administering TLC to various men with various needs. And what woman wants a man whose needs she cares nothing about?

Recently, a divorced male friend said: "When I was married I spent 20 per cent of my time getting laid. Now that I'm divorced, I spend 85 per cent of my time getting laid." There's the problem in its essence: putting together one perfect man out of two or three slightly imperfect candidates is too time-consuming and tiring. We are finally driven to monogamy not by morality but exhaustion. One candidate wins out over the others, and we succumb to the blandishments of one (hopefully) perfect man. This solution has on its side convenience, honesty, simplicity and stability. But does it have stability? Statistics show our monogamies tend to be serial, that sooner or later both spouses begin playing around; that now most children can expect to grow up in single-parent households (or become somebody else's stepchildren).

A young man once said to me: "Marry as often as you like, but promise me I'll be your only lover." His wistful plea had true longing in it: the longing for stability in an unstable world. If marriage no longer provides that, perhaps love affairs will. I treasure the fantasy of marrying and marrying and marrying, yet having only one lover through it all. But I am neither young nor foolish enough to want to endure the psychological wreckage of splitting up yet again.

> The perfect man has a broken nose, or crooked teeth

Knowing full well that life is too rich and strange for love to come in the form of a prearranged, predictable, prefabricated model, I still feel tempted to compile a composite of the perfect man. He's beautiful, but not without imperfection: a broken nose, crooked teeth. He's intelligent, never pedantic. Most important is his sense of humour. He can laugh in bed. Though indefatigable, he's not obsessive about sex. He doesn't think of it as a performance, and doesn't berate himself if he doesn't have a constant erection. He's passionate without being priapic.

The worst by-product of the "sexual revolution" is the substitution of performance for passion. For many men sex is now another area of competition. The son of a friend told me that from 16 to 21 he never "allowed" himself to have an orgasm with a woman, so concerned was he with pleasing his partners. "Here were women like you and my mother writing about how men were so insensitive to women's needs. So I figured the main thing was to give the girl as many orgasms as possible. I got so controlled I couldn't come myself. Now I say 'let's bring back the John Wayne image of manhood, when men could prematurely ejaculate and not care!"

What he didn't consider in his nostalgia for John Wayne is that no man of Wayne's generation could have been sitting at a dinner party (at his mother's house) having such an intimate talk with his mother's friend. Something has changed for ever in men as a result of the sexual revolution and the women's movement, and that change can be summed up as greater openness.

No one seems immune to performance mania. Our society, having decided sex is acceptable, if not optimal, without love, seems to have replaced the desideratum of endless love with the desideratum of endless erection. When sex becomes as competitive as racket-ball or the stock market, surely an essential quality has been lost.

My perfect man, then, is no slave to performance. He doesn't have a nervous breakdown if he can't get it up one night, and is secure enough to know he is liked for his brains and humour.

"The perfect man is someone you love who also loves you," said the psychologist Mildred Newman. "If I had to single out one quality," said the singer-songwriter Carly Simon, "it is a sense of joy."

"There is no such thing as a perfect man; and no one even gets close," said Helen Gurley Brown.

"Perfection is terrible; it cannot have children," wrote Sylvia Plath, alluding, I think, to the fact that perfection is final, closed and leaves no room for growth. When we seek the "perfect" man we know that if we found perfection, it would be inhuman. We love people for their humanity; not because of their perfection but despite their imperfection. When I think of the men I have loved most, I remember small imperfections: a crooked front tooth, or slanting or shaggy brows.

My first husband was a fellow graduate student. We read Shakespeare in bed and immersed ourselves in medieval history, 18th-century literature and old movies. We were soulmates, but then our souls changed. My second husband represented stability, order and sanity as I was diving down into my unconscious to retrieve my first real poems. Once I learnt how to do it for myself, his role became more and more artefact, and his deficiencies more and more apparent.

My third shared with me the longing for a child, the passion to create a life around reading and writing novels while rearing our daughter. For a time we also were soulmates, but then our needs and souls changed. Is this failure, or a complex kind of destiny? I prefer the latter. Each choice had its own logic at the time it was made. The fact that the union could not endure doesn't invalidate the choice.

Perhaps my life has been more complex because of the blessing/curse of becoming a celebrated writer. But I believe my fate has not been so different from that of other women of my generation.

Raised to believe we needed men as parental figures, we grew up into a world where we had to assume burdens our mothers would have deemed masculine: earning a living, managing money, changing tyres. We found ourselves more capable of nurturing men than of finding men who could nurture us. We started out looking for daddies and wound up finding sons. We were ready to enjoy this kind of relationship, but saw it did not come without a price tag. What eluded us was finding true partners.

> We start off looking for Daddy, end up marrying a son

I have been much like many women of my time. In my twenties, unfledged in my career, I married a father figure; in my thirties, well established in my career, I felt free to choose a man merely for his "sense of joy". When even that proved to have its own problems I stayed single for eight years. I still regard this as the most critical period of my life. When I remarried, I was ready for a true partner and married someone I had come to consider my best friend. It was a marriage unlike any other I had made. It continues to grow in unpredictable ways.

The perfect man would combine beautiful boy and steady daddy, but that combination rarely turns up. "The sort of men who buy one life insurance are never much fun in bed," Fay Weldon says. Ah, but one wishes they were. True, most successful women will opt for *joie de vivre* and sex appeal over insurance but all long-term relationships still require reliability as well as joy. There are problems with all relationships not based on true equality: they must become equal, or break down.

Where does one find a true partner? At this stage in the relations between the sexes women are often more enlightened than society permits men to be. Women still have all the insights of an underclass: a self-deprecating sense of humour that punctures pomposity; a view of the overclass from the ass up, so to speak; a social perspective that only an outsider can have. All these things force us to grow.

Men, instead, still constitute an overclass, still tend to be coddled by women, from mothers onward, and are deprived of the chance to have their pomposities punctured. Some exceptional men overcome this, but many do not.

I don't mean that one gender has got a rawer deal from the sexual and feminist revolutions. Both have been shaken to the core, both are reeling from the shocks. But women have been forced to have certain insights into society that are largely unavailable to all but the most empathic, artistic, intelligent men. It is thus terribly hard for most women of my generation to find true partners. Not bed partners, not fun partners, but men who will shoulder burdens equally with us and who possess that quality of joy.

Ah, the dream of the true partner. He is, after all, "the perfect man." Do we find him, or train him? And if we find him, will he go mad at 25, develop depression at 30 or wind up making love to babysitters at 40? Can we love him without coddling him? Can we make demands without being left? Can we find a balance between giving and taking?

I thought I'd given up on the perfect man, but I never really did. I just readjusted my notions of perfection. The perfect man is, after all, the one who sees the best in you and holds you to your own *beau idéal*. Because he loves who you are, his vision helps you to become more truly yourself. As you grow sure of yourself in his love, you mirror his best self as well.

● *This is an edited extract from* What Do Women Want? *Bloomsbury, £14.99.*

TONY STONE



The job, the flat, the car — but not the man

Can a matchmaker find you love? Interview by **Grace Bradberry**

Penrose Halson sits on a tiny tapestry work chair in a diminutive mint-green parlour. Her knees are hunched up towards her chin, forming a lectern on which she rests her large pink book, which has rows of yellow and white cardboard strips slotted into each page. Each one represents a person. There are more yellows than whites. More women than men, one bleakly assumes. "No," she says firmly. "I ran out of yellow ones. It's arranged by age and sex, and the last page is 'courting'."

Halson's mission is to move the strips of cardboard from the front of her book (singles) to the back (tentative couples), and then out of the book altogether, two strips having mated to become a smiling wedding photograph. Many such pictures clutter the Georgian rooms from which Halson works, a testament to her success as a professional matchmaker. Since she took over the Katharine Allen Marriage Bureau in 1986, she has married off hundreds of couples but has rarely been a guest at the nuptials. "Because the couples won't admit how they met, I would stick out like a sore thumb," she says.

It is one of the contradictions of our "anything goes" society that the search for love is still dogged by rigid conventions. Picking someone up in a club *is* acceptable, joining a dating agency is not.

To Halson this appears nonsensical. "Why be the plaything of fate?" she asks in a new book aimed at thirty-something women.

Halson is a rather hesitant woman of 58, courteous, concerned, shy when it comes to her own private life. She married only ten years ago, and it was her husband Bill who suggested buying the bureau because he believed that she would be good at the work.

She has been. She refuses to supply statistics — "those agencies that do are either guessing wildly or fibbing," she says. In any case, some of her clients' marriages are only indirectly to do with her. The meetings that she sets up often lead to a widening of people's social circles and an increase in their self-confidence — "the ripple effect" and "the halo effect", as she dubs them in the book. By allowing both of these to work, women are more likely to meet their "enlightened man".

The book is aimed at women because, she says, their lives have changed much more than men's. This is reflected in the changing professional status of the women seeking her help. Teacher; PA; self-employed caterer, — but now there are also City high-flyers, women with salaries of £200,000 plus bonus, who, as she puts it, "have the job, the flat, the car, but not the man".

Halson's views are not especially fashionable. She gets lots of young women who have lived with a partner for ten years, only to find themselves single at 38. "Men having honourable intentions did protect women," she says.

As a woman gets older statistics start to work against her; there are more women than men on Halson's books. "The proportion is 60-40. But it's significantly better for a young woman of 30." Women in their late thirties wishing to have babies, but seeking a man without existing children, present a problem. So do very short men, very tall women, middle-aged women, very young men. While she does not turn people away, she makes the position clear before they pay their £750 (a year's subscription). "I'm pretty depressing if, say, a woman is 39, wants a baby and is 5ft 11in."

Most of the male clients are in their thirties. The initial face-to-face interview puts off married men; the fee puts off the insolvent. All of them want to marry.

"They're very superior men," says Halson. "They want to marry but they do want to make sure as far as possible that they make a good marriage." Some work in offices where approaching a woman might be seen as sexual harassment. (Apparently this is a problem in the City.)

The only man she remembers turning down was 55 who required a woman between 50 and 53 with a specific golf handicap living within 15 miles of Northwood Tube. And she admits to being frustrated by women who demand that a man earns more than them, is more than 6ft tall, or prescribes a very set "type".

So what about Halson herself. Why did she not marry until 48? Too picky? "Too picky for what?" she says, showing the only sign of prickliness so far. The daughter of a civil servant, her two sisters married at 19 and 22 respectively. She was educated at seven schools, including Millfield, where the playwright Robert Bolt taught her about metaphysical love poetry. She took an external London University degree at a private college in Oxford, then spent a year in Beirut, staying with an aunt and uncle. She returned to England and worked first in publishing, then as a teacher. There were boyfriends, but no one she wanted to marry. At 27, her mother sent her to the Katharine Allen agency. One man wanted to marry her but she thought him an idiot as a result. She was 37 when her mother advertised her in the *New Statesman* and she met Frank, 15 years her senior. They had known one another for two months when they decided they would stay together. The same day Frank died of a heart condition, a terrible twist of fate that brought "chilling desolation".

In her early 40s she advertised for a tenant to share her Fitzrovia flat. Bill Halson turned up. After seven years they wed. "Being married to Bill is the most wonderfully liberating state," she says.

I am *dying* to know what men lurk in the big pink book. We embark on a condensed version of Halson's introductory interview. I rattle off my age, education, height. We move on to preferences. Must he have a certain salary? How tall? How do I feel about race and religion?

There is a mid-thirties academic. A City trader who could be termed cash-rich, time-poor. A political researcher of 30 — "He doesn't earn much now, but he might later," she says. (It becomes clear that many female clients place a certain emphasis on salary. Many also specify "no Muslims" — there is no room for political correctness when seeking a mate.)

But what's love got to do with it? "I'm sure that in all cases it's love of a sort, whatever that means," says Halson. "I agree with Prince Charles on that. It can mean all sorts of things to different people.

CHRIS HARRIS

Halson: Women's lives have changed so much

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Barabbas is safe in the White House

The trial of Bill Clinton has found the US people wanting

The American voter has had enough of the Clinton trial. Like a corporate client at the opera, he cannot wait for the curtain to come down and normal life to resume. It ain't over, apparently until the fat lady sings. Well, now that Monica has testified, the ungallant thought enters his head that the denouement must be at hand.

And what a curiously unsatisfying end it is. If this affair were an opera it would have to be *Don Giovanni*. President Clinton may not, yet, have clocked up the one thousand and three lovers which the Don managed, but you can't fault him for effort. And like the eponymous hero of Mozart's opera, the President relies on his servants to do the dirty work. The Don had Leporello. Mr Clinton has the White House aide Sidney Blumenthal, who has just been accused of acting as a hired character assassin prepared to rubbish Monica Lewinsky as a "stalker" and then compound his crime with denial. Monica herself recalls the innocent peasant girl Zerlina on whom the Don practises his charm. But striking as the comparison may be between the President and the Don, the trial has lacked what the opera enjoyed — a fitting climax.

Although the audience is as charmed by Don Giovanni as much as any of his conquests are, it recognises that he must account for his sins. When the Commendatore drags the Don off to Hell in the final act there is a sense that justice has been done, at least poetically. It is not just respect for the proprieties of the operahouse which prevent the cry arising from the dress circle that "the guy don't deserve it, this is just a sex thing". It is respect for the deeper moral code. The Don is more than just licentious, he is a practised deceiver, an abuser of power.

So why has America not rallied behind its own Commendatore, Kenneth Starr? There are three reasons, none of which leads one to believe that we have advanced morally since Mozart wrote.

There is a widespread belief that the impeachment process is "all about sex". There has been a tendency to judge Mr Clinton's accusers more harshly than the President himself, as though this were an electoral contest and not a judicial process. And there has been a growing boredom with the whole trial which has led voters to demand a speedy conclusion, which is to say an acquittal.

For lovers of the United States, like myself, the acceptance of these three sentiments by American opinion is deeply lowering. From beneath the robes of the Statue of Liberty one glimpses a cloven hoof.

President Clinton was not impeached because of his libido, but because he lied. On oath. In an action brought by a woman, Paula Jones, whom he had sought to coerce and whose reputation was trashed by his henchmen. The White House authorised a lynch-mob to administer a verbal pummelling. One Clinton aide, James Carville, tried to question Ms Jones's motives. He charmingly suggested that Ms Jones was what you found if you "drag hundred dollar bills through a trailer park". If you drag White House job application forms through the swamp then Mr Carville is what you find.

A variant of the treatment administered to Ms Jones was tried on Ms Lewinsky. Where the former was a gold-digger, the latter was a fantasist. But, as the inquiry proceeded, the real peddlers of fiction were found in the White House.

As Chris Woodhead has observed sexual relationships between masterful older men and biddable young women can be educative. We have all learnt from Mr Clinton's affair. The manner in which he has reacted to the exposure of his adultery has laid his character bare. He is the Bart Simpson of politics. "I didn't do it, nobody saw me do it, who are you to accuse me anyway . . .?".

His personal credibility shredded, Mr Clinton has proceeded to diminish that of the West. A.J.P. Taylor has persuasively argued that the First World War was driven by the continental powers' railway timetables. Mr Clinton's vaporising of Sudanese chemical workers and Iraqi children seems to have been driven by Congress's impeachment timetable.

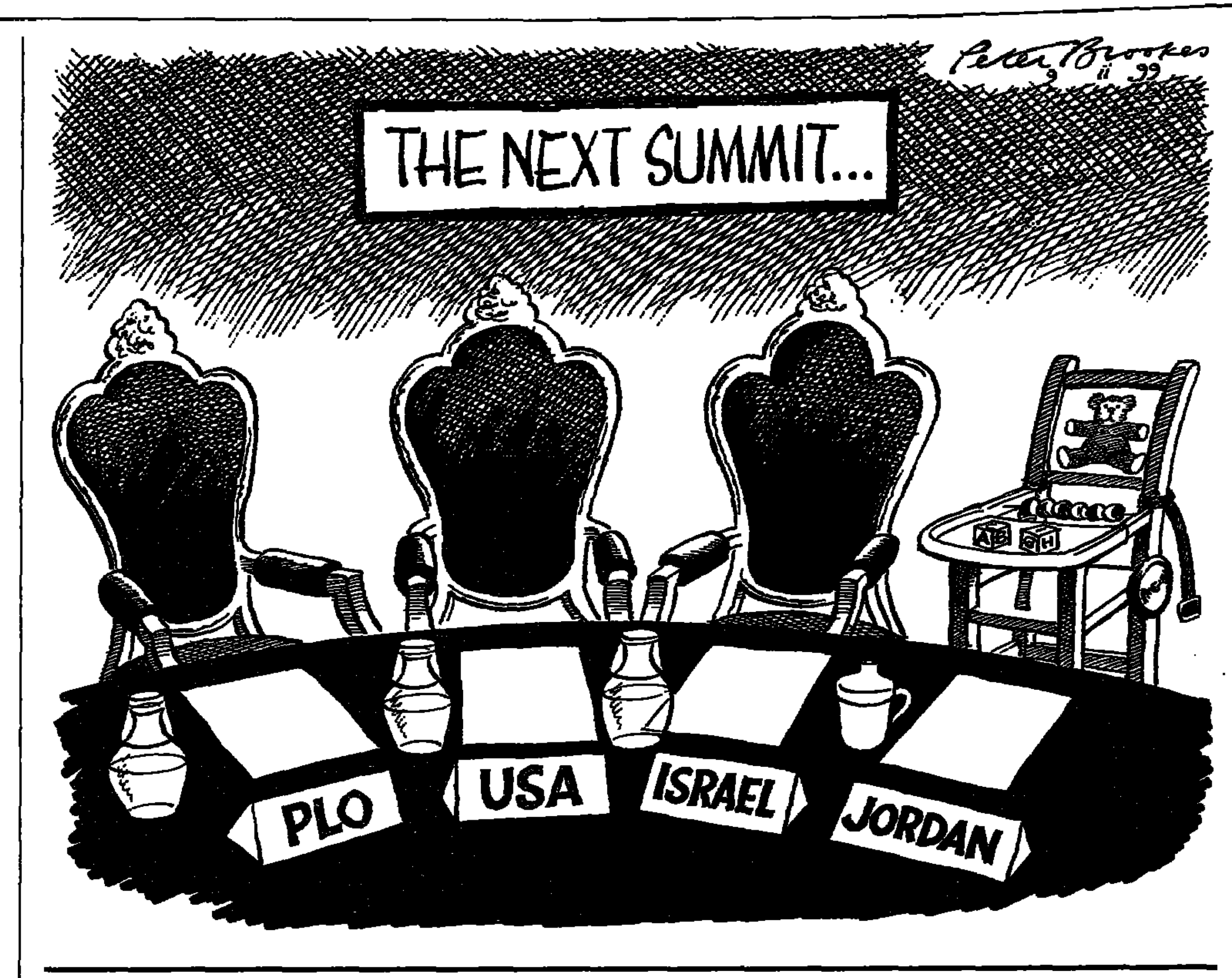
Forget all that nonsense about the bombing being driven by Ramadan. Every major Arab power has been happy to go to war during the holy month. And Mr Clinton has shown so little respect for the tenets of his own Baptist faith that one can hardly expect him to exhibit any great reverence for the Koran. It is, just, possible that the timing of the airstrikes was driven by geopolitical considerations. But given the President's record, how can we believe him? He has consistently shown that he will sacrifice others to stay in office. And by doing so as Commander-in-Chief he has forfeited the moral superiority which the West needs when reserving the right to intervene in other sovereign states. At least when Richard Nixon was trying to secure his position, he ended wars rather than starting them.

Michael Gove

The President's accusers have been branded Puritans, which one might have thought was a compliment given that America was founded by them. But the case for impeachment is no more about sex than *Don Giovanni* is about the mistreatment of servants by aristocrats. It is a diverting feature in a chronicle of deceit.

It should not matter what the motives of Clinton's accusers are, nor should the public's ennui-driven desire for acquittal let a guilty man off. If justice is to depend on the personal charm of the protagonists, or the public's prevailing sentiment, then every trial will end in the release of Barabbas. This one has ended with him still in the White House. In a special corner of Hell, Don Giovanni must be laughing.

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Third Way, or Reich?

Tony Blair's style of government is chillingly reminiscent of Germany in the Thirties, argues **Max Beloff**

The advent of new Labour has produced a steady stream of books explaining its victory in terms of the personalities involved and the stratagems they employed. Since they are unlikely to contain much that is new they make boring reading. Even less useful are the efforts of Downing Street's tame sociologists to give some meaning to the empty concept of the "Third Way". One does better reading books that add to one's general understanding of politics. High on the list should be the first volume of Professor Ian Kershaw's magisterial biography: *Hitler*.

The tale he has to tell is chilling — the violence involved in Hitler's march to power was the prelude to the much greater violence which will feature in the second volume. Yet if one excludes the political violence and racism of Nazism, which one must, there are still telling parallels between then and now. The similarities between Adolf Hitler and Tony Blair's path to power are hard to dismiss.

Ian Kershaw explains how Hitler rose to power, and then having achieved office, led the Nazi Party to complete dominationin every aspect of German life. It is that second aspect of the story which is particularly helpful in explaining the unfolding agenda of new Labour.

While most of the dictators whose careers have disfigured this century achieved power through military force, Hitler achieved it through elections in a system of universal suffrage. Because the Nazis, unlike new Labour, never obtained an overall majority before they were in power they needed allies to take office. They pioneered the co-option of dupes to push through the constitutional changes which then entrenched their own dominance. Labour constantly invokes its own claim to a popular mandate for its own assault on our country's historic constitution. But the party has followed the Führer in using dispensable allies to lend its project an extra legitimacy.

The Nazis realised that the process of seeking total and permanent authority required them to find within the existing system collaborators who thought that their own interests would be advanced if the party could be inducted into office under their aegis. Hitler's gift as a tactician was to see how far he could push his demands at each stage without alarming his dupes, and at what point he could safely get rid of the encumbrances which his temporary allies represented. The use of political figures from other parties to camouflage new Labour's purposes is directly reminiscent of Hitler's tactics. Chris Patten has been taken on to help to emasculate the Royal Ulster Constabulary, while Lord Wakeham must give respectability to the destruction of the Lords. Mr Blair has clearly learnt from history. These gentlemen have not.

Neither, I fear, has business. One of the prime necessities for a party seeking power is money. Hitler could hardly hope that the subscriptions of the rank and file would suffice. So money was sought from business. Much tact was required — a political party, even one making much of its hostility to "Bolshevism", which had "socialist" and "workers" in its title, did not obviously commend itself to industrialists and bankers — but enough businessmen were won over to pay for Hitler's non-stop campaigning. In return, the donors were assured that economic policy would not be radical and that the power of the trade unions would be curtailed.

> It is not yet clear if Blair sees his family as ersatz royalty

The Blairite offensive in the City of London had the same general objective and was along the same lines. But in this case personal cards were also played. Once Labour was in government, peerages and even ministerial office were bestowed on some big subscribers. For some multinationals the promise of a more Europhile policy was no doubt an incentive.

Money alone would not put Hitler into office. He also needed to win over some of the political, military, and even cultural, elites. Again radicalism had to be put into the background and the "vons" co-opted. In the end he had to exact from Hindenburg the Chancellorship nomination and the necessary powers to make it effective. The "Austrian corporal" had to receive the field marshal's blessing. Once the Government and the Reichstag were controlled by the Nazis, such allies were needed only to assuage foreign fears while rearmament began. It was therefore in the Diplomatic Service that the old elite retained their usefulness. Even when Hitler needed the key post of the London Embassy for a member of the Nazi gang, Ribbentrop had to be married to a fortune and allowed to add a "von" to his name before the appointment could be made. This Government's handling of Whitehall displays every bit as much finesse in stroking the mandarin ego as the Nazis ever deployed.

When Hitler was able to recast the constitution with the aid of pliant legal scholars — to concentrate in his own person the dual roles of head of government and head of state — the full impact of a non-party state was finally apparent to all but the wilfully blind.

By then rival parties — except among the self-exiled — had disappeared. The old parties of the Right and Centre Right, which were needed to make up a majority for the enabling legislation, had succumbed to a mixture of blandishments and pressure. Those who thought that by entering a coalition they were going to share power were to have a rude awakening. Are the Liberals listening to history while they decide on a new leader?

While the historic kingdoms and provinces that have gone to make up the old German empire and its successor, the Weimar Republic, could not be eliminated from the map, they were subjected to a degree of centralisation that made a mockery of any idea of their separate personalities. The party "Gauleiters", not elected officials, were the key to the new regime.

We can now see that the Blair "project" embodies similar aims, based on similar methods. When Mr Blair took office, Britain was still a unitary state. But "devolution" has made its parts more amenable to party control than the nation state would have been; we have our Gauleiters-in-waiting — Donald Dewar for Scotland, Alun Michael for Wales, and an as yet undisclosed nominee for London. Meanwhile, the electoral rules for the new parliaments and assemblies, and for the European Parliament, are devised to ensure that Labour will dictate who is elected. The destruction of the House of Lords — reform is a word that sits as ill with Mr Blair as it did with Hitler — is intended to remove yet one more obstacle to Labour Party domination.

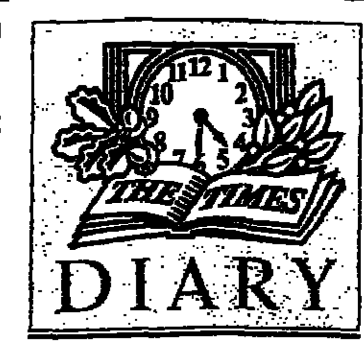
The leaders of Britain's other political parties have shown themselves as gullible as their German counterparts. If Paddy Ashdown had studied the fate of Hitler's allies he would hardly have believed that Mr Blair would give him the guarantee for his party's survival inherent in the Jenkins proposals for proportional representation. The Liberal Democrats are not to be preserved, but absorbed.

It is not clear where the constitutional ambitions of Mr Blair and his coterie stop. Hitler became Führer — the sole embodiment of the German State. We still have a monarchy. But the blow to the hereditary principle in the Lords has revived Labour republicanism. It is not yet clear if Mr Blair wants to include the Royal Family in his "project", or if he wants to present himself and his family as a kind of ersatz royalty.

Once in power, Hitler showed little interest in the details of policy — not for him files or Cabinet meetings, let alone parliamentary-style debate. The resemblance to Mr Blair is again striking. A small body of acolytes acted as a buffer between Hitler and the world just as the Downing Street staff now protects Mr Blair. Architects, film-makers and actors figure in both leaders' courts. One can see in the House of Lords Mr Blair's own Albert Speers and Leni Reifenstahls.

What next? Mr Blair has no Wehrmacht to bring Europe under his sway, but by aligning himself with Euroepan Union Socialist parties, and accepting their agenda, he may hope to create the illusion that Europe belongs to him. Meanwhile, we may note that this first volume of Professor Kershaw's book has the subtitle "hubris". The second volume will no doubt be subtitled "nemesis". Need one say more?

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Sleaze buster

JAZZY ties have lent Jon Snow enough character to make him a TV "personality"; now they have carried him into Parliament. The newscaster is to be chairman of a meeting called to discuss how best to clamp down on sleazy lobbyists.

The Hansard Society debate will be held in the Cabinet Office, whose mercurial secretary Sir Richard Wilson will speak. At issue: whether the purveyors of brown envelopes need to be regulated.

Proceedings could become fractious for our colourful sleuth as evidence will be presented by lobbyists and parliamentary plods such as Lord Neill of Bladen of the Standards in Public Life Committee. Snow plans to be strict: "I should be able to keep control. I am not doing it for penurious reasons. It sounded an interesting subject." Sock it to 'em, boy.

● *HER struggle to avenge the humiliations of history heaped on the motherland began on May 4, 1979. But Baroness Thatcher's rise to power is to be celebrated by bunker command on April 20 — the birthday of Adolf Hitler.*

Leading man

AS IF one fragrant woman was not enough for Peter Bottomley, the Tory MP is riding to the defence of Penelope Keith (left). The hubby of the lovely Virginia (right) is giving





moral support to his actress neighbour, who is accused of unfair dismissal of toiler. "He just couldn't help sticking his oar in," I am told. I am sure he was a tremendous help.

● *AS THE chequered flag came down on King Hussein of Jordan, Jackie Stewart, glamour boy and car buff, made the journey to Amman: "I knew him for 35 years," says Stewart, whose grandson Dylan was Hussein's godson. Baroness Thatcher did not make the starting grid: she called to ask if she could go but was told that former PMs were not needed.*

Bald truth

HOW to succeed in politics, by William Hague. The Tory leader will offer sage counsel to would-be Leaders of the Opposition during one of Michael Cockerell's "How To" documentaries. "The point is to talk to as many former incumbents as possible," Cockerell tells me.

But Hague's tormented predecessors are not keen to reminisce: after his donkey-jacketed spell at the helm, Michael Foot is not inclined to offer "off-the-cuff advice" while Neil Kinnock talks wearily about having "moved on now". Luckily Sir Edward Heath, keen on giving advice, threatens: "Wait and see".



● *AFTER Jordan, the Prince of Wales dashed back for a delayed appointment: tea and lentil soup at an organic farm near Oxford run by the National Trust.*

River race

EVIDENCE that Cambridge will lose to Oxford in educating Prince William stacks up. After long coats from Buckingham Palace checked out Lincoln College, I now hear they have swung by Magdalen.

Although the Prince of Wales is a Cambridge sort, William has links with Magdalen. Earl Spencer attended, and the future Edward VIII had rooms in the cloisters, including accommodation for his ADC.

"Security at Lincoln would be difficult," I hear. "Its rooms are on a street front while Magdalen's are some way back, although they do overlook the river." Academic excellence seems less of a factor.

● *FAVOURITE fountain of Charlie Whelan, The Red Lion, is hosting all-party folk nights. Stars include Labour MPs Gerry Bermingham and Ronnie Campbell. Sounds totally missable.*

JASPER GERARD

'Flirtation is often a component part of teaching methods — it's certainly one way to capture the attention of bored students'

James Heartfield

There is no pleasure so great, according to Confucius, as watching a man fall off a roof. *Schadenfreude* is as natural a human emotion as love. So one can forgive the teaching unions their moment of pleasure at the discomfiture of Chris Woodhead. The Chief Inspector of Schools' comments, which appeared to condone sex between teachers and pupils, and the revelation that he enjoyed a relationship with a former pupil, have led to calls for his resignation. Teachers' unions feel that their members have been unfairly victimised for falling standards by Mr Woodhead. Now their persecutor is getting his comeuppance after a Hoddlesque gaffe. You sow what you reap.

But the unions which are delighted to see Mr Woodhead slip up should realise that their members are on the same flimsy roof. And the Government is making it more dangerous still.

Allegations of sexual impropriety between teachers and pupils provoke understandable outrage. But teachers should know better than anyone that it is unwise to hurl unsubstantiated allegations of sexual abuse. Changes in public attitudes and the law have made teachers especially vulnerable to false charges of sexual misconduct.

The numbers of allegations made against teachers by pupils trebled in the three years after the Children Act came into force in 1991, although the number of staff convicted or sacked remains as low as before.

Clearly social attitudes towards child abuse have changed. In the past, child sexual abuse was so taboo that allegations were routinely disbelieved, allowing that minority of abusers a free rein. But where we used to turn a blind eye we are now in danger of wagging the witchfinders' finger. Today it is impossible to discount allegations of abuse made against teachers. According to some child welfare professionals, it is wrong to assume that children can lie. One wonders how they explain *Just William*.

As anyone who has children, or works with them, knows, children do tell lies, often, and sometimes they tell serious lies. Thanks to Esther Rantzen and others, children are also very aware of the neurotic charge which allegations of sexual abuse provoke. These issues are discussed in their hearing in the media, home and school. Pupils may not be au fait with every detail of the 1989 Children Act, any more than the unemployed were intimate with the details of Peter Lilley's legislative programme, but in both cases they "know their rights". The word went around the playground in no time that teachers were no longer allowed to lay hands on their pupils. We should not be surprised that children know the force of an allegation of inappropriate sexual behaviour, even if they are only dimly aware of its full ramifications. Nor should we be surprised that pupils deploy this weapon against teachers.

The central provision of the Children Act is that the interests of the child should be paramount. This may be an admirable sentiment. But elevated to a legal principle, it is a disaster. It leads to the conclusion that all rights and protections previously afforded adults are trumped by the interests of the child. In practice it leads to an assumption that the accused is guilty until proven otherwise.

With the new changes in the law of consent teachers will be opened up to yet more allegations of misconduct. Under the new law, sexual relations between teachers and pupils aged between 16 and 18 are criminal. Such relations were always a breach of school discipline and a sacking offence. But the intervention of the law only increases the distrust between staff and pupils.

Both the Children Act and the new law on consent represent the clumsy intrusion of law into relations that were once subject to self-regulation. Trying to impose the strict framework of legal rights and duties on to teachers and pupils fails to take account of the rich complexity of school life.

The truth is that flirtation is often a component part of teaching methods — though no longer one that is tolerated, as many older teachers are finding. This kind of banter on the part of teachers is not ordinarily evidence of attraction, let alone intent. It is just a way of catching the attention of another bored classroom.

With the new law of consent in place, alongside the Children Act, the courts are encouraging pupils to take flirtation for abuse. By raising the stakes about relations between teachers and pupils, the law breaks down the trust that previously existed, and substitutes a presumption that teachers are potential sexual predators. The outcome of the new law on consent might be to eroticise student-teacher relations, not protect school pupils.

The author is a writer and researcher on children's rights.



HUSSEIN'S HOUR

The place of a man amid the diplomatic complexities of an age

The sounds of weeping, bagpipes and chants from countless minarets were extraordinary. The image of the coffin, a solitary Arab stallion, and the seemingly endless funeral cortège, will stay in the memory of millions. Despite the scenes of grief and the pressing crush from high and low, King Hussein of Jordan was buried yesterday with an appropriate dignity. Hundreds of thousands of his subjects lined the ten-mile route from his home at Bab es-Salam to the Raghadan Palace. Hundreds of visiting statesmen waited there for the opportunity to pay their last respects. In death as in life the King was a focus for unity and stability.

That a diplomatic gathering of this size and rank should settle in such a small city as Amman is a tribute to King Hussein's standing. He moved in a unique set of political circles — the remaining monarchies, Western industrialised powers, the Arab nation, the Third World — and all were represented at his last journey. His country may currently occupy a central and strategic position in the Middle East but that was not the reason why so many had come so far at short notice. He is a reminder that, for all the prominence of superpowers and economic blocs, the charismatic individual has not been rendered redundant in international relations.

The presence of certain key individuals symbolised the occasion. President Assad of Syria had not been expected to attend but did and embraced the Jordanian Royal Family with apparent emotion. President Yeltsin defied medical advice to make the trip and in so doing bravely made plain the depth of his own condition. The large delegation of Israelis, many of whom have hardly a decent word for each other, repaid the compliment that the King had bestowed on them at the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin. The various factions duly took care to keep a distance from each other but did not allow their enmity to break through.

The end of the Cold War may make it possible for funerals of such a diplomatic character and scale to take place more often. But very few individuals will command the respect required for such an attendance. Nor will they meet in the same spirit that was so evident in Amman. This particular farewell afforded numerous opportunities for discreet political conversations. President Clinton and the American entourage will have taken the chance to explore fresh avenues in the Middle East peace process. Whether these efforts can produce any development of real merit is a matter of speculation. That King Hussein would have approved and encouraged such a venture is not.

KNOCK AT THE DOOR

Mugabe takes the fateful step towards dictatorship

Zimbabwe has not been well administered for most of the past two decades: that much is self-evident. Incomes are much lower and unemployment is considerably higher than when Ian Smith was Prime Minister and his country was subject to international sanctions. This current economic crisis has become sharper of late: the Zimbabwean dollar has lost half its international value in only 12 months. Yet, for all these difficulties and despite Robert Mugabe's authoritarian instincts and open aspiration for a one-party system, a degree of political pluralism, short of democracy but equally shy of despotism, has more or less been maintained. This in turn explains why Zimbabwe has not entered the expanding ranks of Africa's most impoverished states.

It may not be long before it does. The arrest of three reporters from *The Mirror* newspaper yesterday, following the previous illegal detention and torture of two journalists — Mark Chavunduka and Ray Chato — from the *Zimbabwe Standard* last month, suggests that President Mugabe is determined to extinguish what remains of the independent media in the country. His ministers have all but promised that this crackdown will take place. Chen Chimutengwende, who serves under the ill-founded title of Information Minister, has pledged fresh legislation that would prevent new newspapers from being established, ban local media organisations from receiving funds from abroad, and tighten rules on libel and defamation.

In his ill-tempered, and at times incoherent, address to the nation at the weekend, Mr Mugabe made it clear that the free press was but one of the targets in his sights. He blamed British agents "planted or recruited in Zimbabwe to bring about disaffection amongst us" for the lamentable condition to which he has reduced his country. He defended the army's actions in arresting Mr Chavunduka and Mr Chato and warned other writers not "to cry foul" if they received the same treatment. He bluntly indicated to the many members of the judiciary — especially three senior Supreme Court judges — who have criticised his conduct over the past few weeks that they should leave their posts and allow him to appoint their successors.

Mr Mugabe's overt dash to dictatorship reflects his increasing desperation. For much of the past 19 years he has survived in office, despite his record, because of division among his opponents. The emergence of a new political force, the Zimbabwe Union of Democrats, led by Margaret Dango, MP, and Morgan Tsvangirai, leader of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions, now poses a substantial threat to the regime. Despite Mr Mugabe's attempts to assert otherwise, neither of these credible characters has any links to the old white establishment or overseas intelligence organisations. They are Zimbabwe's government-in-waiting.

They will not have the opportunity to fulfil that role if Mr Mugabe, as he intends, makes it impossible for their party to promote its message. Only outside pressure or an internal coup will preserve what remains of democracy in Zimbabwe. The IMF, which will decide next month whether to resume balance-of-payments support to the Government, must not proceed with that backing in these circumstances. Britain and other donor nations should not continue with these contributions while Mr Mugabe is making such threats. This would not be, as the Zimbabwean President claims, "a campaign of destabilisation". It is the one way that meaningful economic and political stability in Zimbabwe might be restored.

A FREE SCHOOL

The Guildford governors should be bold in reform

Surrey County Council has decided that it would like a non-profit organisation to manage one of its comprehensive schools. Last year school inspectors judged that Kings' Manor School, Guildford, to be failing its pupils. Instead of ordering closure, the council has decided to see if the private sector might succeed where it has failed. Such radicalism has provoked disapproval from some in the education establishment, who see it as evidence of creeping privatisation. Yet councils have had decades to perfect their performance. Some still perform lamentably badly. Where that happens, fresh ideas should be welcomed. Children's interests, not vested interests, should come first.

The cries of protest reflect fears that, far from bolstering local authorities' grip on education, new Labour is prepared to loosen it. Under the Conservatives, the private sector began to tiptoe into the state sector, with initiatives such as city technology colleges. Instead of reversing this trend, the Government has formed 25 education action zones, where local education authorities and businesses invest in nearly 500 underperforming schools. If local authorities fail to perform their functions to an adequate standard, private contractors might be sent in. Now, to the horror of the teaching unions, ministers appear to be prepared to allow private companies to manage schools in return for a fee and performance-related bonuses.

The Education Secretary, David Blunkett, has demonstrated nimble political footwork in dancing around this issue. To appease the unions and his party's left wing, he stated that "there is no question of a state school being run for profit". This, his advisers claim, is a world away from a company running a school for a "management fee". Surrey County Council's decision to award the Kings' Manor contract to a not-for-profit organisation has given him a let-out clause that is unlikely to silence his critics. Mr Blunkett should ignore them, and instead think what parents want.

Surrey's parents are unlikely to agree that the council is reneging on "its duties and responsibilities", as Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, claims. Had the council ploughed on, trying to develop its own solutions to the school's problems, then it might be guilty of such a misdemeanour.

Nor are many parents likely to share the views of Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the NASUWT, who attacked Surrey County Council for abdicating its powers and portrayed it as a "turkey voting for Christmas". Parents whose children are educated in councils which have been bumping along the bottom of the performance tables might well applaud this act of self-sacrifice. The school is still free, open and educating their children, and that is what matters most.

The school governors should not be discouraged from taking the bold measures that are often required to revitalise a failing school. In the United States, the Edison Project, which runs 25 schools, has restructured everything from the length of the school day to teachers' contracts. It is unfortunate that this organisation did not feel able to pursue its interest in Kings' Manor for fear it might lack full autonomy. Whether the governors will be courageous enough to sanction such changes, if deemed necessary, remains to be seen.

In Labour's election manifesto, the Prime Minister stated that "what matters is what works". Where local authorities fail that test, their monopoly on the provision of state education should be questioned. Mr Blunkett should not be afraid of making enemies within his own party as a consequence. The Guildford experiment must be given the chance to work and, if it succeeds, be encouraged elsewhere.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Threat to business by Home Office

From Mr Andrew Nicol, QC, Chair of the Immigration Law Practitioners' Association

Sir, The misery caused to refugees by Home Office delays is well known. More recently, however, through a virtual shutdown of the Home Office's Immigration and Nationality Directorate (IND), the Home Office has created a situation that seriously threatens the future of international business and overseas investment in the UK.

On February 1 the IND suspended the fast-track representative application system upon which the international business community in the UK largely relies in order to process urgent applications. As a result, there is inordinate delay in ordering files at the Home Office. Linking correspondence from all relevant parties has become almost impossible (thus limiting the number of applications that can be processed) and those who have submitted passports many months ago cannot travel as they are unable to retrieve them.

It is unacceptable that businessmen who are required to travel urgently should have to submit postal applications, knowing that their passports will not be available for months to come. This organisation has put forward urgent interim measures which require immediate implementation if the UK's already damaged reputation in this area is to be salvaged.

Would Robin Cook or Jack Straw like to be told that they were unable to travel abroad on business for several months because of "reorganisation"?

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW NICOL,
Chair, Immigration Law Practitioners' Association,
Lindsey House,
40-42 Charterhouse Street,
London EC1M 6JN.
February 4.

Hoddle and free speech

From Mr Michael Patterson

Sir, Freedom of speech may well be the most fundamental of human rights, as Mrs Tricia Morgan says (letter, February 5), but America, a nation I admire, does not have a monopoly on such freedom and is far from being its greatest exemplar. Many who have spoken up for the right to hold, for example, communist or humanist views in the US could vouch for that.

Glenn Hoddle lost his job, not for expressing religious beliefs, but for making ill-considered and prejudicial comments about a whole section of our society from a position of power and influence, when we as a nation are entitled to expect much, much better.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL PATTERSON,
93 Beverley Crescent,
Bedford MK40 4BZ.
impact_mpa@compuserve.com
February 5.

Performance and pay

From Sir Martin Berthoud

Sir, May I enter the lists against performance-related pay (PRP) with David Gladstone (letter, today)?

The Foreign Service introduced this pernicious system in the 1980s. I was serving with them abroad at the time as head of a small post where good relationships with all staff were crucial and all too liable to be upset if someone thought they were not getting their just deserts over pay or anything else.

A senior member of my staff made it clear to me that he thought he deserved a recommendation for a PRP bonus. I thought he wasn't quite up to that high standard but, wanting a quiet life, feebly told him I would try. Inevitably, my commendation lacked total enthusiasm and he failed to get the award.

The PRP system simply invites fudges of this kind. Staff relationships at schools, large and small, are obviously as important as in an embassy, and it will be the greatest pity if these are to be imperilled through the introduction of this invidious procedure.

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN BERTHOUD,
Gillyflower,
Stoke by Nayland,
Suffolk CO6 4RD.
February 8.

Monitoring MPs

From Sir John Lea

Sir, You report today that Mr Andrew Dismore, MP, is attempting to introduce the creation of a system for keeping QCs up to scratch after they are appointed.

May I suggest that there is a far greater need for a system to keep MPs up to scratch after they are appointed. To parody Mr Dismore, I have known some brilliant MPs (including my own) but also some mediocre ones.

I suggest any investigation should start with MPs who perhaps could not make the grade as lawyers.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN LEA,
Springfield,
27 Bright's Lane, Hayling Island,
Hampshire PO11 0JX.
February 3.

Ethos and standards of the OUP

From the Secretary to the Delegates and Chief Executive of the Oxford University Press

Sir, Alan Howarth, the Arts Minister, chooses to describe the Oxford University Press as "barbarians" (report, "OUP attacked for erosion of standards", February 4).

This is a bizarre charge to levy at an organisation which publishes over 4,000 titles each year, including hundreds of very specialised monographs. It spends over £5 million a year on completely new editions of the *Oxford English Dictionary* and *The New Dictionary of National Biography* — a scale of scholarly subvention which would be quite inconceivable to any other publisher.

Mr Howarth rightly observed, on the same occasion, that OUP "is part of a great university which the Government supports financially". But he omitted to mention that the Government does not support the OUP; and, indeed, it is the OUP which gives financial support to the university.

OUP's primary purpose is to publish scholarly, academic and educational books; we are striving to achieve this in an increasingly competitive publishing and bookselling environment.

To ask OUP to continue to publish contemporary poetry is to invite it to subsidise creative writing, to behave as if it were an outlying department of the Arts Council. This is not part of the remit of a university press. We have never published any other kind of contemporary adult creative writing. Neither has anyone ever suggested that we should. Writing poetry is a valuable activity, but it is not an academic one and not part of OUP's primary purpose.

The open debate taking place within the university community about poetry, even though the decision has twice been ratified by meetings of the OUP's governing body of academic delegates, only confirms how much we care about these issues.

Oxford remains a home for lively debate, free thinking and, of course, civilising publications.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY REECE,
Secretary to the Delegates and Chief Executive,
Oxford University Press,
Great Clarendon Street,
Oxford OX2 6DP.
February 5.

From Professor Paul Helm

Sir, The critics of the OUP quoted in your report today may well be correct as regards literature, though the evidence offered in the report is slight.

My own experience in another discipline, philosophy, is different. I have had reason to admire and to benefit from the meticulous rigour of academic readers invited by the OUP to vet my manuscripts.

In this discipline, at least, there is reason to think that the academic standards of the OUP are at least as high, if not higher, than they were a generation ago.

Verbal slips are annoying, but intellectual standards count for more.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL HELM,
Department of Theology and Religious Studies,
King's College London,
Strand, WC2R 2LS.
February 4.

From Dr Henry Hardy

Sir, I am astonished by the statement by so distinguished a scholar as Sir Keith Thomas, Chairman of the Finance Committee of Oxford University Press, that "Oxford's editorial standards remain exceptionally high, and are enforced by a legendary copy editor who can read 40 different languages".

Leofranc Holford-Strevens edits the books in his care with genius, certainly, but his writ does not run more widely. Indeed, there is no longer any centralised control of editorial standards at the OUP: their administration was some time ago devolved to individual departments, with unsurprisingly variable results.

The imputation to OUP of editorial degeneracy is too serious to be deflected by paying tribute to a source of quality control which does not exist.

Yours etc,
HENRY HARDY
(OUP editor, 1977-90),
Wolfson College, Oxford OX2 6UD.
February 4.

From Mr Andrew Malcolm

Sir, I was amazed to read Sir Keith Thomas's assertion, in defence of OUP's poetic barbarism, that "Most commercial publishers have given up publishing new poetry. To ask Oxford to continue this task is to invite it to subsidise creative writing."

Good heavens, the idea that Britain's richest, most self-aggrandising, most tax-exempt, most *subsidised* university should promote creativity! Whatever next?

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW MALCOLM,
AKME Publications,
7 Southover Street,
Brighton BN2 2UA.
February 4.

Pinochet extradition

From Miss Zofia Rusiecka

Sir, I was deeply shocked and ashamed to read the letter signed by some Members of the Polish Parliament (February 3) opposing the extradition of General Pinochet to Spain and supporting his role in Chilean history.

I cannot understand how people who (according to their own statement) suffered oppression from the authorities can justify what was done in Chile.

Yours sincerely,
ZOFIA RUSIECKA,
Końicowa 4b/7,
Toruń 87-100, Poland.
zofia.rusiecka@tzmo.com.pl
February 4.

From Wing Commander R. Dauncey (retd)

Sir, Well written, Marcin Libicki and his fellow East European signatories.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall, one has tended to forget the left-wing bias when discussing the Soviet Union that was shown by various commentators — who used to be known as fellow-travellers.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD DAUNCEY,
Lermoos, 34 Main Road,
Naphill, High Wycombe HP14 4QB.
February 3.

Aids vaccine

From Mr Cliff Lenton

Sir, Far from concluding that testing Aids vaccines on humans is "premature" as you do in your leading article (February 2), the National Aids Trust and the International Aids Vaccine Initiative believe that human trials for some of the 40 candidate vaccines now available are long overdue.

Whilst behavioural prevention strategies must be expanded, increasing the insignificant $125 million which is invested annually in finding a preventive Aids vaccine must now be a priority for public health and development agencies. Relying on social change will simply condemn to death many more millions in the developing world.

Yours faithfully,
CLIFF LENTON
(Vaccine Project Director),
National Aids Trust,
New City Cloisters,
188-196 Old Street, EC1V 9FR.
cliff@welltown.demon.co.uk
February 2.

Letters may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

UN and East Timor

From Mr Tom Hyland

Sir, There is an urgent need to demilitarise East Timor. I believe the ultimate responsibility lies with the United Nations, and agree with the Australian Council for Overseas Aid (report, earlier editions, February 3) that now is the time for peacekeepers to be dispatched.

The Irish Government announced on February 1 that it would be ready to offer assistance to the UN should it be decided to dispatch observers or monitors to East Timor to oversee a ceasefire and an Indonesian military withdrawal. One hopes that, in line with his ethical foreign policy, Robin Cook will follow suit.

What a marvellous opportunity it would be for British and Irish peacekeepers to stand side by side in East Timor. This would be very much in line with the spirit of the Good Friday agreement.

Yours sincerely,
TOM HYLAND
(Director), East Timor Ireland Solidarity Campaign,
Suite 16, Dame House,
24-26 Dame Street, Dublin 2.
etisc@indigo.ie
February 3.

'Classless' medal

From Dr Roger Hood, TD

Sir, Does the introduction of the so-called classless medal replacing the Territorial Decoration and Territorial Efficiency Medal (report and photograph, February 1) herald equal conditions of service for the Territorial officer and soldier? And is it an accident that the announcement coincides with the one-third manpower cut in the TA?

I believe I detect government idealists marching badly out of step and in the wrong direction.

Yours,
R. A. HOOD,
Woodside, 10 Copsem Lane,
Esher, Surrey KT10 9HE.
February 4.

Olympic pantomime?

From Mr Alan J. Miller

Sir, Señor Samaranch asking the IOC members to support him (report and leading article, February 4) appears to me to be analogous to Ali Baba asking the 40 thieves for a vote of confidence.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN J. MILLER,
4 Cloister Gardens,
Edgware, Middlesex HA8 9QL.
alanm@cwcom.net
February 5.

Clues to English identity crisis

From Mr Edward Fennell

Sir, The investigators into national identity were surely asking the wrong questions at the wrong time when they came to England (report, "Confident Celts put England in shade", February 1).

The Scots and Welsh are right to feel their hour for national assertion has arrived within the broad-spreading union of the EU. (Northern Ireland's condition is, of course somewhat different.) But England is in an entirely different state. As well as being occupied by many first and second generation Celts (such as myself), the major centres of London and the South East, Manchester, Birmingham are the home of an astonishingly varied multicultural, multilingual and cosmopolitan community to whom, not surprisingly, the traditional English stereotype can only be applied with difficulty.

London is now a "world city" with all the blessings and disadvantages which that implies. England is gradually assuming a rich, multilayered pattern which a simplistic, traditional notion of national identity will not satisfy.

The so-called crisis of Englishness marks, in fact, the birth pangs of a new kind of society — complex, cosmopolitan, sophisticated and diverse. Come back in 50 years and see the result.

Yours,
EDWARD FENNELL,
20 Egbert Road,
Winchester SO23 7EB.
February 1.

From the Reverend Gill Henwood

Sir, The identity crisis suffered by those of us who are English may be because "English" is a default identity. In a way similar to the answer "C of E" for religious affiliation, to be English is a catch-all description for those without strong links elsewhere. Being English, as being "C of E", could be described as a negative identity; we are not positively something else, by nationality or religion.

In the Church of England this is part of the familiar and comforting pattern of everyone automatically belonging unless opting out. The parish church is there for everyone and is largely taken for granted. Perhaps we should consider English nationality in the same way; everyone belongs and though we rarely bother to celebrate our heritage, it is a reassuring, quiet sense of being which many people from around the world admire.

After all, how can we define "English identity"? Born in London, my grandparents' surnames were Rennie (Scotland), Bell (from Eire), de Vere Mingard (?Huguenot) and Knappett (?Flemish). On marriage I was delighted to acquire a truly English-sounding name which anyone can spell — but if its origin is indeed Cornwall, is it English?

Yours in crisis,
GILL HENWOOD,
Woodlands Farm, Hothersall Lane
Hothersall, Lancashire PR3 2XB.
woodlandsfarm@compuserve.com
February 1.

From Miss Alice Goddard

Sir, In your report, the Scots, the Welsh and the Northern Irish happily described themselves as "friendly", "easy-going", "genuine", "caring". The English interviewed seemed to feel no pride in their national character.

If anyone asks me what we English are like in future, I can at least hold my head high and say "modest".

Yours faithfully,
ALICE GODDARD,
28 Deacons Hill Road,
Elstree, Hertfordshire WD6 3LH.
February 2.

From Mrs M. Fraser

Sir, Being proudly and undilutedly English, I was intrigued to read "Manchester woman's" account of our compatriots' view of their nationality. And, in roughly ten seconds, I came up with five different symbols of England: Shakespeare, sublime domestic architecture, cricket, the ability to laugh at ourselves and an internationally useful language.

Yours faithfully,
MARY FRASER,
The Mill, Kirkhill,
Inverness-shire IV5 7PR.
February 2.

Millennium bugged

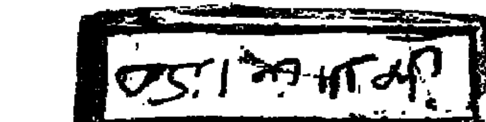
From Mrs Olivia Parker

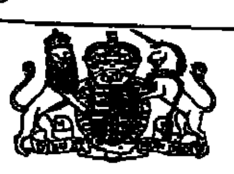
Sir, "I'll have to make up an expiry date, the machine has rejected that one," the shop assistant told me yesterday when I tried to pay for a book with my new debit card (expiry date: 12/00).

What a thrill; after all this talk on the TV and radio it had happened — I'd been "Millennium Bugged", and there are still 11 months to go.

More worryingly, when I asked excitedly "Is that the millennium bug?" the shop assistant looked completely blank.

Yours sincerely,
OLIVIA PARKER,
The Apartment, Four Seasons,
Ballyneety, Limerick.
oparker@iol.ie
February 4.





COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM HOUSE
February 8: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by The Prince of Wales at the State Funeral of King Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, which was held in Amman, Jordan.

The Lady Susan Hussey has succeeded Lady Dugdale as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 8: The Princess Royal, Patron, Basic Skills Agency, this evening attended the British Council International Reception at the Strand Palace Hotel, The Strand, London, WC2.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, patron, the Basic Skills Agency, will attend the British Council International Seminar at the Strand Palace Hotel, 37 The Strand, London WC2, at 8.55am; and will officially open Moorcroft School, Bramble Close, Hillingdon, Uxbridge, at 2.00.
The Duke of Kent, president, EDEXCEL Foundation, will attend the EDEXCEL Student of the Year Awards at Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Avenue, at 11.30.

Lord Lowry

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of The Right Hon The Lord Lowry will be held at the Temple Church, London EC4, on Monday, March 22, at 5pm.

Birthdays today

Mr Norman Adams, painter and ceramic sculptor, 72; the Countess of Airlie, 66; Mr Brian Bennett, Shadows' drummer, 59; Mr Ryland Davies, tenor, 56; Air Commandant B.M. Ducat-Amos, former director, RAF Nursing Service, 78; Miss Mia Farrow, actress, 54; Dr Garret FitzGerald, former Prime Minister of the Republic of Ireland, 73; Mr Bernard Gallacher, golfer, 50; Dr George Guest, organist, 75; Mr Justice Johnson, 66; Mr Ben E. King, singer, 57; Mr Sandy Lyle, golfer, 41; Sir Donald Miller, former chairman, ScottishPower, 72; Dame Annette Penhaligon, 53; Sir Hayden Phillips, civil servant, 56; Miss Amanda Roocroft, opera singer, 33; Professor M.J.H. Sterling, Vice-Chancellor, Brunel University, 53; Mr Gordon Strachan, football manager, 42; Miss Janet Suzman, actress, 60; Mr Clive Swift, actor, 63; Lord Williams of Elvel, 66.

Dinners

Ruskin Society
Viscount Norwich delivered a lecture to the Ruskin Society at the annual dinner held last night at the Reform Club to mark the 180th anniversary of John Ruskin's birth. Sir Richard Body, MP, chairman of the society, presided and Professor Michael Wheeler also spoke.

London School of Jewish Studies
Professor Graham Zellick, Vice-Chancellor of London University, *the Chief Rabbi and Rabbi Dr* Abraham Levy were the guests of honour at a dinner held last night at Senate House, London University, to mark the degree ceremony and Rabbinic ordination of the London School of Jewish Studies, an associate institution of London *University. Mr Clive M. Marks* presided. Professor David Ruben, director of the school, also spoke.

The Athenaeum
Professor John Montgomery was the speaker at a talk dinner of the Athenaeum held last night in Pall Mall. Canon Michael Saward was in the chair.

Cardiff Business Club
The President of Cardiff Business Club, Mr C.N.D. Cole, and the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor Marion Drake, were present at a dinner held by the Club at the County Hall, Cardiff last night. The guest speaker was the Secretary of State for Wales, the Right Hon Alun Michael. Councillor Russell Goodway, Leader, Cardiff County Council, presided.

Luncheons

Mid-Atlantic Club
Ambassador Klaus-Peter Klaiber, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Nato, was the guest of honour and speaker at a Mid-Atlantic Club luncheon held yesterday at the English-Speaking Union. Mr Alan Lee Williams, Director of the Atlantic Council, was in the chair.

Rotary Club of London
The German Ambassador was the speaker at a luncheon of the Rotary Club of London held yesterday at the Portman Hotel. Mr John Buchanan, president, was in the chair.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Dr Rana Kabbani was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Group of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. The Hon Ivor Lucas presided.

Appointment

Mr Bill Sinton has been appointed Ambassador to Algeria, from September, in succession to Mr François Gordon who will be transferring to a new Diplomatic Service appointment.

RICHARD CANNON

Dame Judi Dench, patron of the Orange Prize for Screenwriting, with the three winners, Bernard Wright, Sara Sugarman and Clive Bradley, and Hans Snook of Orange. Dame Judi presented the award for the first time at The Ivy, London, yesterday. The prize, which was launched at the Cannes Film Festival last year, is aimed at new talent and is open only to those who have never had a feature film script produced into a film.

Royal Society of Chemistry

The following were admitted as Fellows of The Royal Society of Chemistry in January 1999. They are entitled to use the designation 'Chartered Chemist' and the letters CChem FRSC:

F G Bateman, G J Bignold, D W Bonniface, M Bowker, G A Bowmaker, J M Brown, R F Browne, K J Cavell, R G Compton, S D D K Galpoththage, P N Gates, P W Groundwater, I Hamerton, A J Handley, D M B Hickey, G Hogarth, R C Hunter, A G Jones, R G Kinsman, R R Landham, T Lilley, J A McCleverty, B A Murrer, B Odell, P Parkes, A M Phillips, S J T Pollard, D W Y Poon, A J Ryan, C J Springer, M J Sutcliffe, C C Todd, D L Turner, M Vaswani, T S-M Wan, C D Williams, *S M Wilson and J V Wood.*

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Edward Carson, 1st Baron Carson, lawyer and leader of the Irish Unionist Party, Dublin, 1854; Anthony Hope (pseudonym of Sir Anthony Hope Hawkins), novelist, London, 1863; Mrs Patrick Campbell, actress, London, 1865; Alban Berg, composer, Vienna, 1885; Jim Laker, cricketer, Bradford, 1922; Brendan Behan, writer, Dublin, 1923.

DEATHS: John Hooper, Bishop of Worcester, burnt at the stake, Gloucester, 1555; Nevil Maskelyne, Astronomer Royal 1765-1811, Greenwich, 1811; Fyodor Dostoevsky, novelist, St Petersburg, 1881; Johann Sir Truby King, pioneer of mothercraft, Wellington, New Zealand, 1938; Bill Haley, rock 'n' roll singer, Harlingen, Texas, 1981; Yuri Andropov, General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party 1982-84, Moscow, 1984.

Lord Darnley, Consort of Mary Queen of Scots, was murdered in Edinburgh, 1567.

Aeroflot, the Russian state airline, *was formed, 1923.*

The British Government declared a state of emergency after a month-long miners' strike, 1972.

Royal Air Force College Cranwell

Air Marshal I D Macfadyen was the Reviewing Officer at the Graduation of 86 officers of No 175 Initial Officer Training Course from Royal Air Force College Cranwell last Thursday.

Graduating Officers of No 175 Initial Officer Training Course

General Duties Branch - Pilot
Flying Officers P D Beevers BSc; A Coe BSc; P M Durban BEng; D M Flynn BSc; C W Knight BSc; B Shepherd BEng; J A Tipper MEng; S M Williams BSc.
Pilot Officers J D Baker; A P Baron BEng; M P Barrett BSc; D Blakemore BSc; J M Cockroft BEng; B D J Goggin BEng; R W Hederman MEng; TM Jordan BSc; C R Kidd BEng; P Krol BEng; D C Landy MEng; E A McCulloch BSc; S P Oakley BEng; O J Pengelly BA; Z R Sennett BSc; B J Spoor BSc; A R Thompson BSc; R J Tuer BEng; A P Watts BEng; A K Woodward BSc.
Acting Pilot Officers A P Coxall RIN MRAeS; A K Williams.

General Duties - Navigator
Flying Officer H Bamford MA.
Pilot Officers M J Grafton HND BEng; E L Hale BA.

Operations Support Branch - Air Traffic Control
Flying Officer S M Aldridge.
Pilot Officers W Carney MA; H J Goodwin BSc PGCE; S J Payton BSc; A M Stewart BSc.
Acting Pilot Officer M J M Davis.

Operations Support Branch - Intelligence
Pilot Officers R L Dixon BA; M S Lofts BA.

Operations Support Branch - Flight Operations
Pilot Officer J C F Huxley BA.
Acting Pilot Officer R J Gleeson.

Operations Support Branch - Regiment
Flying Officer S R J Morris BSc.
Pilot Officer M G Smith BEd.

Engineer
Flight Lieutenants P A Brooker BEng AMIEE; C C T Checkley BEng SRAeS; S J Dyke BEng AMIEE; A C Keeling BEng ARAeS; J S Nash BEng AMIEE; S M Taylor BEng; G J Walker BEng AMIEE; E D Williams BEng.
Flying Officers A J Baker BEng AMIEE; G P Ball; D C S Black BEng; T S Bleakley BA MEng; D J Johnston; P M Leighton MSc BSc; V Mungroo BEng BA; M A Neasham BEng AMIEE; D A Penter MEng.
Pilot Officers A M Audus HNC; J J E Bertie MSc BEng; M C Cook BEng; M A Lane BEng; J K V Ward BEng.

Supply
Flying Officer M Reed BSc MSc.
Pilot Officers H M Gledhill BSocSc; A L Shilvock BSc; A Tose BA.

Administrative Branch - Training
Flight Lieutenant D Chan BSc PGCE.
Flying Officers M Dempster BA; S Hinton BA PGCE; M A Scott-Jeffs BA PGCE.
Pilot Officer J Phillips BSc PGCE.

Administrative Branch - Secretarial
Flying Officers S J O'Donnell BSc; I A Popper.
Pilot Officers K L Dryden BA PGCE; R W Edmond BA; V L Hughes BSc.
Acting Pilot Officers J M Haw*thornthwaite; P D Yates.*

Foreign and Commonwealth
Qatar Emiri Air Force
Pilot
Second Lieutenants M Al Hababi; H Al Naimi

Hungarian Air Force
Fighter Controller
Officer Cadet A Nagy

Prizewinners of No 175 Initial Officer Training Course

The Sword of Merit, awarded to the RAF cadet who, during Initial Officer Training, has demonstrated outstanding ability, leadership and other officer qualities and potential for further development, Student Officer A C Keeling BEng ARAeS.

The Hennessy Trophy and Philip Sassoon Memorial Prize, awarded to the RAF cadet who, during Initial Officer Training, has proved to be the best all-round cadet, other than the Sword of Merit winner, Student Officer J S Nash BEng AMIEE.

The British Aircraft Corporation Trophy, awarded to the RAF or Foreign and Commnonwealth cadet who has attained the highest marks for professional studies on the course, Student Officer S M Williams BSc.

Overseas Students' Prize, awarded to the Foreign and Commonwealth cadet who has produced the best overall performance in leadership, officer qualities and professional studies on the course, Officer *Cadet H Al Naimi QEAF.*

The Group Captain Williams Memorial Trophy, awarded to the RAF cadet who, during Initial Officer Training, has shown the greatest improvement, Student Officer V Mungroo BEng BA.

The Longcroft Trophy, awarded to the cadet who has contributed most to sport during Initial Officer Training, Student Officer B D J Goggin BEng.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S.P. Baxter
and Miss E.J. Jardine
The engagement is announced between Simon, eldest son of Mrs Jane Baxter, of Saxmundham, Suffolk, and of Mr John Baxter, and Elspeth, younger daughter of Mr Richard Jardine, of The Barbican, London, and Ashfield-cum-Thorpe, Suffolk, and the late *Mrs Janet Jardine.*

Mr W.J.F. Carpmael
and Miss A.L. Wait
The engagement is announced between William, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Carpmael, of Sturts Farm, Neen Sollars, Worcestershire, and Anna, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Wait, of Fendalton, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Captain T.S.B. Christie
and Miss V.A.L. Monk
The engagement is announced between Captain Toby Christie, The Highlanders, elder son of John and Stephanie Christie, of Blackhills, Elgin, and Vanessa, younger daughter of Robert Monk, of Twickenham, and Pamela Morris, of Hook Norton, Oxfordshire.

Mr L.J. Evans
and Miss A.R. Losse
The engagement is *announced* between Lee, only son of Mr and Mrs John Evans, of Peterlee, Durham, and Anna, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Dieter Losse, of Windsor, Berkshire.

Mr J-P. Cope
and Miss S. George
The engagement is announced between Jason-Phillip, only son of the late Mr John Cope and of Mrs Cope, of Harrow-on-the-Hill, London, and Sally, only daughter of Mr Peter George, of Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, and Mrs Carol George, of Chelsea, London.

Mr J.E.H. Dykes
and Miss M.H.E. Manley
The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr and Mrs Bryan Dykes, of Chelsea, London, and Michèle, daughter of the late Mr Peter Pearce Manley and of Mrs Manley, of Buntingford, *Hertfordshire.*

Mr R.W.E. Ladds
and Miss S.A. Stuart-Hunt
The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Major and Mrs William Ladds, of Doniford, Somerset, and Samantha, daughter of Richard Stuart-Hunt and the late Lindsay Stuart-Hunt, and stepdaughter of Mrs David Sebire, of Horton, South Gloucestershire.

Mr G.D. Tresidder
and Miss N.J. Richardson
The marriage will take place today, at the Landmark Hotel, London, between Mr Gavin David Tresidder, only son of Mr and Mrs Brian Tresidder, and Miss Nicola Jayne Richardson, daughter of Mrs Richardson and the late Mr Barry Richardson.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Eric Robinson, NSM Curate, Carlisle St Cuthbert w St Mary (Carlisle): to be Curate, Kendal Holy Trinity (same diocese).
The Rev Nick Sharp, Curate, Oakwood St Thomas (London): to be Team Vicar, Farnborough The Good Shepherd (Guildford).
The Rev Gerard Storey, Anglican Pastor, Oman: has been appointed Priest-in-Charge, Guernsey Holy Trinity (Winchester).
The Rev Dr Nicholas Thistlethwaite, Vicar, Trumpington St Mary and St Michael (Ely): to be Precentor of Guildford Cathedral (Guildford).
The Rev Paul Tudge, Vicar, Woodside St James (Ripon): to be Vicar, Ilkley All Saints (Bradford).
The Rev Peter Vargeson, Vicar, Burlesdon (Winchester): has been appointed Rural Dean of Eastleigh (same diocese).
The Rev Jacqueline Waterman, Priest-in-Charge, Walton St John (Liverpool): has been appointed Incumbent, same benefice.
The Rev Haydon Wilcox, Rector, Bilsthorpe, Eakring, and Priest-in-Charge, Maplebeck and Winkburn (Guildford): to be Priest-in-Charge, Aldershot St Michael (same diocese).

Retirements & resignations
The Rev Paul Conder, Vicar, Blundellsands St Michael (Liverpool) to retire August 7.
Prebendary Patrick Dearnley, Priest-in-Charge, Waterloo St John (Liverpool) to retire May 31.
The Rev Benjamin Sasada, NSM Priest-in-Charge, Dickleburgh w Langmere and Shimpling, Thelveton w Frenze, and Rushall (Norwich) retired January 17.
The Rev Athol Thompson, Vicar, Shiregreen St James and St Christopher (Sheffield) to retire April 4.

University news

Leicester
Honorary degrees: Mrs Rachel Sullivan (Master of Arts).
Professor Barry Supple, FBA, (Doctor of Letters).

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." Matthew 9.12-13 (NIV).

BIRTHS

CARTWRIGHT - On February 3rd in London, to Joanna and Simon, a daughter, Alice Eleanor.

CARVER - On February 1st 1999, to Philip and Caroline (née Sellon), a son, Thomas Robert.

FORD - On January 28th, to Clare (née Heap) and Jason, a son, Joseph Asher. Thanks to the staff at The Jessop Hospital, Sheffield

HOLT - On February 2nd 1999, to Lucy (née *Thorburn*) and William, a son, Alexander Patrick Rothwell.

LEEMING - On February 7th 1999, to Emma (née Woodward-Fisher) and Nicholas, a daughter, Amelia Anne, a sister for George and Edward

MAUGHAN - On 2nd February 1999 to Jamie and Punchie a son Angus William Sanderson, a brother for a delighted Ned and Katie.

MORRISSEY - On Sunday, February 7th 1999, to Jo-Jo (*née Gregorie*) and Patrick, a son, William Timothy Benedict.

SETH - On 22nd January, to Deborah and Patrick, a son, Oliver George Finlay, a brother for James

STONEHILL - On 4th February, to Felicity (*née* Salmond) and Christopher, a daughter, Lydia Cressida, a sister for Edward and Rupert

TAYLOR/LONGTON - On 14th December 1998, to Philip and Carrie, a beautiful daughter, Grace Florence.

WELLS - On January 27th to Diana (née Long) and Derrick, a son, Charles Alexander Gordon.

DEATHS

AYLMORE - Colonel (Retd) - Robert Henry (Bob) Aylmore late Royal Engineers, died at home on 7th February 1999 aged 59 years after a brave and courageous fight against cancer. Much loved husband of Gill, greatly loved father of Catherine, Helen and Jonathan, and grandfather to Charles, Harry, Oliver, Edward and Sophie. Funeral service at All Saints Church, Haslingfield on Friday February 12th at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired payable to Imperial Cancer Research Campaign c/o F W Cook Funeral Service, 49 Church Street, Willingham, Cambridge tel 01954 260325.

BEST - Heather Elizabeth (née Gardner), on 5th February, in her 75th year, after a long illness. Always at the heart of her family. Private family cremation. Flowers, or donations to The Dementia Relief Trust, c/o L.F. Lintott & Son, North Street, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9DG. (01730 813264).

BROADLEY - Margaret Elsie, aged 95, member of the *Royal London Hospital* nursing staff (1923-58), peacefully after a short illness on February 5th, 1999. Loved and loving aunt and great-aunt and friend of many. Private family cremation at Parndon Wood Crematorium, Harlow, *Essex at 10.00am on* Thursday, February 18th, followed by thanksgiving service at the Methodist Church, Loughton, Essex at 11.00am. Family flowers only. Any donations to the Whitechapel Mission, London E1, c/o Warriners and Sons, 32 Church Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 1LA.

BROHN - Penelope Jane, died peacefully at home surrounded by her family, David, Daniel, Justine and Jessica and close friends, on Wednesday February 3rd, 1999. Penny was a co-founder of the Bristol Cancer Help Centre and fought her cancer with style and courage for nearly 20 years. Everyone who met her will treasure *that time and her family* miss her terribly. She came to us to live out loud. A funeral service for family and close friends will be held at St Mary's Church, Saltford, Near Bristol on Wednesday 10th February at 11.30 am. A memorial service will be *held at St Mary Redcliffe* Church Bristol on Tuesday 9th March at 2.30 pm. Anyone who knew Penny would know flowers are most definitely welcome! Please contact Fleurtation 0117 967 0367.

BROOKE-DEAN - See Dean

BURNE - (Tug) Alexander Gordon FIMechE (teacher, *airman and Scottish* country dancer) died peacefully after a short illness on February 5th 1999 aged 78. Service to take place at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Monday 15th February. Family flowers (cut flowers only). Donations *if desired to The Woodland* Trust or the Kent Air Ambulance. Enquiries to W. Hodges, 89 St Johns Hill, Sevenoaks, TN13 3PE, (01732) 454457.

CAREY - (Sladen) Angela on Saturday February 6th 1999, reluctantly but peacefully at home. Beloved wife of Michael, widow of David Sladen and very much loved mother of Fiona, Kirsty, Sarah and Andrew, grandmother and great-grandmother and twin sister of Pat Allen. Private funeral followed by Thanksgiving Service at All Saints Church, Wrington, North Somerset on Saturday February 13th at 12 noon. Flowers or donations c/o Keith C Britton and Son, Funeral Directors, 10 High Street, Yatton, North Somerset BS49 4JA. 01934 832115.

CREWE - Peacefully at home on February 6th, Thomas Cavey, aged 73 years. *Husband of Linda, father* of Rachel and Simon, father-in-law of Liza and Tony and "Pompa" to his grandchildren. Funeral Monday February 15th, service at Mutley Baptist Church, Plymouth at 1.00pm. All enquiries please to Walter Parson *Funeral Director, tel 01752* 665438.

DAVENHILL - Rosemary, on 4th February 1999, peacefully in Winchester, aged 69. Much loved twin sister of Elinor. Funeral Service at St Barnabas Church, Winchester on Tuesday, 16th February at 2 pm. Flowers or donations to N.S.P.C.C. or R.S.P.C.A. c/o Jno. Steel & Son Ltd., Chesil House, Winchester.

DAY - Anthony Samuel (Tony) on February 5th unexpectedly. Much loved *brother of John, much* loved uncle of Christopher and great-uncle of Claire. Funeral private. Memorial Service at Charterhouse, details to be announced.

DEAN - John Alan Brooke on February 1st as the result of a skiing accident in *Verbier.* Son of John (deceased) and Ursula and father of Oliver, Harriet, William (deceased) and Henry, brother and a friend to so many. Funeral at Holy Trinity, Bosbury, Herefordshire on Saturday 13th February at 12 noon. Enquiries and donations to Hawcutt Funeral Directors, The Homend, Ledbury, HR8. Tel 01531 632084. Family flowers only.

DUNN - Mary (née Graham), eldest daughter of the *sixth Duke and Duchess of* Montrose. Died peacefully at home on 7th February in her 90th year. Beloved mother of the late James and of Simon Boscawen. Much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at St Ninian's, Troon at 12 Noon *on Thursday 11th* February 1999 thereafter cremation, family only. Family flowers only. *If* desired, donations to Macmillan Cancer Relief.

DUNSANY - Lt. Col. Randal, Lord Dunsany, of Co. Meath, on February 6th 1999, peacefully aged 92 years; much loved husband of Sheila and father of Edward and Beatrice Plunkett. Funeral private. Memorial Service in Dublin at a later date.

FLOWER - Laura Lindell, in her 90th year, suddenly but peacefully on 2nd February 1999. Beloved wife of the late Lieutenant Colonel H.S. Flower, 5th Fusiliers, and sister of Stanley Fisher of Manila. Funeral Service at St Michael's Church, Amberley on Thursday 11th February at 2pm.

FORSHALL - Romilly, on 7th February, aged 14, adored daughter of James and Catherine, and beloved *sister to Rose, Beatrice and* Flora. Funeral at 3.30 pm Wednesday 10th February at Marminiac Church, 46250 lot France.

GASCOIGNE - Dibbie, widow of Humphrey, greatly loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother, *peacefully* on 8th February. *Funeral* 2.00pm Monday 15th February at Pettistree Church. Family flowers only, but any donations to St Elisabeth's Hospice, c/o E.B. Button and Sons Ltd, 24 St John's Street, Woodbridge, IP12 1EB.

GEE - On February 5th 1999, unexpectedly but peacefully at home, Derek, the beloved husband of the late Elizabeth, father and father-in-law of Deborah and Michael. Funeral service and interment at the Parish Church of St Giles, Great Longstone on Tuesday, February 16th at 1.00pm. No flowers please, donations if desired for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal may be sent to J.W. & J. Mettam Limited, Mill Street, Bakewell. Tel: 01629 812114.

GIOIA - Raffaele died at home on February 4th 1999 aged 31 after a brave fight against cancer. Family flowers only please, but donations, if desired to Cancer Research, may be sent to Mayesbrook Funeral Services, Barking, Essex IG11 8UW. 0181 507 7641.

HAIG - Lt. Col. Anthony Eyre Gordon, on 5th February 1999 peacefully at The Barn House, Merstham. Loving husband of the late Joane and father of Michael. Funeral Service Monday 15th February 2.30 pm at St Katharines Church, Merstham followed by cremation at The Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Crawley. Family flowers *only, donations to* Alzheimers Disease Society c/o Stoneman Funeral Services, Doran Court, Reigate Road, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 6AZ.

HAYS - Montague died peacefully at home on 4th February 1999 aged 76 years. Much loved husband, father, stepfather and grandfather who will always be in our deepest thoughts and fondest memories. He was a man of great integrity, courage and humour, respected by all he knew. Funeral to take place at Hougham Church, Hougham near Marston, Grantham, Lincolnshire at 11.30 am on Thursday 11th February 1999.

HEALING - Nora Katherine, peacefully on February 2nd aged 97. Dearly loved mother of Geoffrey and Isobel, grandmother of Victoria, Jessica, Jocelyn and Nicole and wife of the late Harold James Healing. Funeral at St Mary of Bethany Parish Church, Mount Hermon Road, Woking on Tuesday February 16th at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Woking Hospice. Enquiries to Funeral Director, telephone 01483 772266

HINSLEY - Lady Hilary Brett, peacefully in Cambridge on 5th February. Funeral at Cambridge Crematorium Friday 12th February at 4 pm. Flowers to Harry Williams, 7 Victoria Park, CB4 3EJ.

KEEN - Margaret M.B.E. on 3rd February peacefully at Ross Court, Ross-on-Wye aged 91 years. (Late of Brampton Abbotts, Ross-on-Wye) Dearly loved aunt of Patrick, Penny and Charles. Funeral Service and interment at Brampton Abbotts Church on Friday 12th February at 2 pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to R.N.L.I. c/o William Bevan, Funeral Directors, 16 Old Gloucester Road, Ross-on-Wye

LEWIS - Joan Dixson peacefully on February 3rd aged 86 years, beloved wife of the late David, sister of Ian Lumsden Rae. Funeral Service at St Nicholas Church, *Blakeney on Monday* February 15th at 2 pm. Flowers or if desired donations for The Imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o Canler & Son FD, Highfield Road, Fakenham, Norfolk.

LUNT - Humphrey Guy, of Edgbaston, Birmingham died on 7th February, 1999 aged 94 years. Beloved husband of Monica, and much loved father of Tim, Judy, Clare and Margaret, grandfather and great-grandfather. Service of Thanksgiving to be held at St Augustine's Church, Edgbaston on Friday 12th February 1999 at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only.

MACINTYRE - On February 4th, 1999 peacefully at home. Captain Bernard MacIntyre DSC* Royal Navy much loved father and grandfather of Mark, Clio, Kate, Michael, Jake, Toby and Gemma. Cremation February 12th, family only. Thanksgiving Service February 27th at St James Birdham. Donations to RNLI Tel 01243 782136.

MACLEAN - On February 8th 1999, peacefully at home in Renfrewshire, in his 91st year, Sir Robert Alexander Maclean K.B.E., D.L., L.L.D., beloved husband of the late Vivienne Neville Bourke of Heathfield, Co Mayo, and much loved father of Caroline, Gillian, Charles and Robin, their children and grandchildren. The service will be held at Houston Church on Friday February 12th at 11am followed by a private burial. Family flowers only please.

MASON - Charles Young Hurdis on 6th February 1999. Dearly loved husband of Angela, devoted father of Caroline, Guy and Hugh. Much loved father-in-law of Martin, Topsey and Anna, *adored grandfather of* Alexandra, Laura and Serena. Private family cremation. Service of Thanksgiving on Friday 12th February at 3 pm at All Saints Church, Poyntington, Dorset. Donations, *if desired*, to Cancercare Dorset, c/o Eason Funeral Services, Newell, Sherborne. Tel. 01935 813479.

MEYRICK - John Edward, on 6th February in his 87th year, beloved husband of June, father of Vivienne, Gerard and Diane. Dear friend of Doris. Funeral service at St Mary the Virgin Church, Fawkham at 11.15am on Wednesday 17th February, followed by cremation at Medway Crematorium. Flowers (or *if preferred, donations to* the Lions Hospice), to T S Horlock and Son Ltd, 11 Station Road, Longfield, Kent. 01474 705076

MORGAN - Hilary (née *Dewey*), aged 75, at Manchester Royal Infirmary on 7th February 1999. Much loved wife of Paul and mother of Clare, Stella and the late Patricia and Hugh. Grandmother of six. Private cremation, no flowers but if desired donations to Central Manchester Health Trust, c/o Dr J Yin, Ward 27, Manchester Royal Infirmary, M13 9WL. Thanksgiving Service to be announced.

MORTON - Charles William Hearne - suddenly on 5th February, aged 73. Much loved husband of Ann, father of Thomas, Guy, Jonathan and Crispin and devoted grandfather. Family funeral at St Helen's Church, Brant Broughton on Thursday 11th February at 11 am. Memorial service in Southwell Minster on Tuesday, 2nd March at 2.30pm. Donations if wished to the British Heart Foundation.

NETTLETON - Betty Isobel, widow of Wing Commander John Dering Nettleton VC, died in hospital on Saturday, 6th February and is greatly missed by her family and friends. The funeral will be held at St Giles Church, Newington, Oxfordshire on Friday, 12th February at 3pm. Any enquiries to 01865 891708.

OWEN - Peacefully on February 6th 1999 Margaret Josephine Owen aged 77 of Tadworth. She will be sadly missed by all her family. Funeral Service at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, Surrey on Monday February 15th at 1.30 pm. No flowers please, donations if desired to Princess Alice Hospice Trust, West End Lane, *Esher, Surrey KT10 8NA.*

PARSONS - On Friday, February 5th, suddenly at home, Edward, much loved son of Andrew and Romy, brother of James and Annabel. Private *funeral service at Newton* Valance. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Macmillan Cancer Relief as he would have wished, through Kemp & Stevens, 93 High Street, Alton GU34 1LG Tel 01420 83177.

RADICE - At Cheltenham on 4th February 1999, aged 77, Henry Lally Tolendal, MBE, late of The Gloucestershire Regiment, after a long illness most bravely borne, beloved husband of Angela. *Funeral Service at All* Saints, Cheltenham at 2pm, Wednesday 17th February, followed by burial in Cheltenham Cemetery. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to "Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum", c/o Mason and Stokes, 54, Hewlett Road, Cheltenham GL52 6AH (01242-224877).

RASTEGAR - Engineer Morteza, father of Mining and Industry in Iran, died *on 26th January 1999 in* Vancouver, Canada. Missed by his countrymen, friends and family. Memorial at Claridges on Sunday 14th February 1999, 5.00 - 7.00 pm.

SEYMOUR - Sheila on February 4th, peacefully at home surrounded by her family. Beloved wife of Leo and devoted mother of Anthea, Hugh, Sarah, Lavinia and Charles. Much loved grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral at St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire on Thursday 11th February at 2.00pm. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to Trinity Hospice, 30 Clapham Common North Side, London SW4.

SMITH - Guy Edward, peacefully at Northend Farm on 6th February, aged 83. Greatly loved, he will be sadly missed by his large family and many friends. Funeral at All Saints', Burton Dassett, at 2.15 pm on Thursday 11th February. Flowers or donations to All Saints' Church, Burton Dassett, c/o J & M Humphris, 32 Albert Street, Banbury OX16 8DC.

SPALDING SMITH - Richard, 4th February 1999 in his 85th year, peacefully in a nursing home. Much loved and respected by all his family and friends. Funeral service, 11.30am on Wednesday 10th February at St Dunstan's Church, Monks Risborough. Enquiries to Surman and Horwood Funeral Service, tel 01844 274842.

STORER - Walter Owen, formerly of Birmingham and Aston Universities, and of Strawberry Hill, Welland, Malvern. Peacefully on February 4th 1999 in The Cromwell Nursing Home, Huntingdon. Much loved *father of Michael and* Susan and grandfather of Piers and Justine. Funeral at 1 pm on Thursday February 11th at Little Malvern Priory, Worcestershire. Enquiries to Malcolm J Presland, Funeral Directors. Tel: 01684 592393.

SWINEY - On February 4th 1999 Christopher Patrick Neville, youngest son of the late Major General Sir Neville and Lady Swiney, dear brother of David and Michael, brother-in-law, uncle and great-uncle. Peacefully in hospital after a short illness, aged 68. Cremation, 1.30 pm on Monday February 15th at Colwyn Bay. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, for *ITU, Glan Clwyd Hospital*, Bodelwyddan, c/o T. Conchar & Sons, 4 Woodland Road West, Colwyn Bay, LL29 7DH, tel: 01492 532206.

SYMONS - Irene Blanche (née Edleston), widow of Ralph, died peacefully on 19th January 1999 aged 93 years in Taunton. Formerly of Bridport and Truro. Deeply beloved by family and friends. The funeral service at the Church of St Mary Magdalene, Clatworthy and interment of ashes at St Peter's Church, Newton has taken place.

THOMPSON - Stanley Charles died peacefully on February 1st 1999 at *Grosvenor Rest Home*, Southampton aged 89. Beloved husband of Barbara, much loved father of Christopher and Angela. Formerly Headmaster of Itchen College, Southampton. Private cremation. Memorial Service at 2.00 *pm on Monday February* 15th at Highfield Church, Southampton. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to the Alzheimers Disease Society c/o J Lawrence & Sons 17, St Denys Road, Portswood, Southampton SO17 2GN. All enquiries tel: 01703 554801.

TREUHERZ - On February 7th, Werner, aged 91, died peacefully after a short illness. Beloved husband of Irmgard, father of Francis, Richard, Julian and Timothy and grandfather of eight. Funeral Tuesday 9th February at 3.30pm, Southern Cemetery, Manchester. Donations if desired to Morris Feinmann Homes Trust, 178 Palatine Road, Manchester M20 8GA.

VEREY - Noeline, late of Budbridge, I.W. died peacefully on Friday, 5th February, aged 72 years. Funeral service to take place on Thursday, 11th February at St Georges Church, Arreton at 11 am. Donations if desired to the Earl Mountbatten Hospice, I.W. c/o William Hall, Funeral Directors, Newchurch, Isle of Wight 01983 868688.

WALKER - Mavis, actress and dear aunt of Michael and Corinna, peacefully on 4th February. Service at 10.30am on Thursday 11th *February at Mortlake* Crematorium, Kew Meadow Path, Townsmead Road, Richmond, Surrey. Flowers on Wednesday to Frederick W Paine, 61 Greyhound Road, London W6 8NH. Enquiries 0181 876 4824.

WILBERFORCE - Faith. Suddenly in hospital on February 5th aged 81. Darling wife of Hugh, dear mother of Tricia and Kerry, grandmother of Jemima and Holly. Funeral at Penton Mewsey Church on Monday February 15th at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations instead to Penton Mewsey PCC c/o Halcrow & Sons, 6a Bridge Street, Andover, SP10 1BH, tel: 01264 335255.

WALLER - The Rt. Hon. Sir George Stanley Waller O.B.E. retired Lord Justice of Appeal died peacefully aged 87 on 5th February 1999 at King Edward VII Hospital Midhurst. Loving and dearly loved husband of Peg; proud father of Tessa, Mark and Irvin; much loved Pops to his grandchildren, great-grandchildren and all his family. Funeral service in Fernhurst Parish Church 11 am Thursday 11th February 1999. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst or to the Barristers Benevolent. Enquiries to Lintotts Funeral Directors 01730-813264.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BECKINGHAM - Professor C.F. Beckingham, FBA. A meeting to celebrate the memory of Professor C.F. Beckingham, Emeritus Professor of Islamic Studies in the University of London, will be held at the School of Oriental and African Studies, *Thornhaugh Street*, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG at 2.30 pm on Thursday 18th February 1999.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

MacLELLAN - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Professor Douglas MacLellan will be held in Leicester on Friday 26th February at 11 am in the Church of St James the Greater, on London Road. All friends and *colleagues* welcome.

MANNERS - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Charles John Robert Manners CBE, DL, 10th Duke of Rutland will be held at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks on Thursday, the 18th of March 1999 at 11 am. Those wishing to attend should apply for tickets and a car pass if required to The Regimental Adjutant Grenadier Guards, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London SW1E 6HQ.

SERVICES

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OBITUARIES

IRIS MURDOCH

Dame Iris Murdoch, DBE, novelist and philosopher, died yesterday aged 79. She was born on July 15, 1919.

"It had been his fate not to be interested in anything except everything," Iris Murdoch once wrote of one of her characters. In many ways this was her own fate, too. As a lecturer in philosophy and Fellow of St Anne's College, Oxford, she shied away from the narrower analytical studies which interested such contemporaries as A. J. Ayer, and turned her attention instead to the expansive, though unfashionable, discipline of metaphysics.

Lecturing and publishing in the field of moral philosophy, she engaged with the Post-Modernist Jacques Derrida and his flanking armies of deconstructionists, arguing that fact could not be separated from value. She sought to place moral inquiry back at the heart of philosophy, embarking with Casaubon-like fervour on her extensive study *Metaphysics as a Guide to Morals* (1992) which was greeted by some critics as a ramshackle collection of essays and by others as a grand philosophical synthesis.

As a novelist, Iris Murdoch was similarly broad in her outlook, taking the "dramas of the human heart" as her subject. Fiction, she said, was a "hall of reflection" which can encompass every form of tragedy and comedy. She used it to chart the progress of a metaphysical battle between evil and good, usually played out within the confines of a leisured upper-middle-class society. Distrusting the constricted focus of much modern fiction, she created large casts of characters so that her novels, at their worst, spun like an emotional merry-go-round, while at their best they were persuasive and amusing commentaries on the contemporary world and the intricacies of human relationships.

She was energetically prolific, and her output seemed as much a show of stamina as of inspiration. Novels such as her 1978 Booker prizewinner *The Sea, the Sea*, or *Nuns and Soldiers* (1981), or *The Philospher's Pupil* (1983) expanded to more than 500 pages, as she painstakingly knitted their protracted and typically mysterious plots, slowly chewing over unfashionably long descriptions and quasi-philosophical themes. Yet, although some critics suggested that adroit editorial excision would have increased the impact of her work, there were others who acclaimed her as the most accomplished novelist in postwar Britain.

Murdoch's personal beliefs were as expansive and accommodating as her fiction. She did not believe in a personal God, she said, which is why she found Buddhism especially appealing. But the religious dimension was essential to her and she bewailed the lack of faith in the modern world.

A woman of immense practical kindness, she was soft-voiced and courteous, with a warm open manner and a large capacity for sympathetic listening, which in many ways she preferred to talking. She seemed rarely to be bored by anything, taking advantage of every encounter to find out as much as possible. "There is never a moment," one of her friends once said, "when she would think it inappropriate to ask: 'Do you believe in God?'"

Murdoch was a familiar figure on the literary scene, youthfully pink-cheeked and with a softly enigmatic smile, dressed in her donnish clothes: woolly jerseys and tweedy A-line skirts. Although there was a natural authority and decisiveness to her conversation, her language was oddly peppered with old-fashioned schoolgirl jargon: "Hello, old thing" and "cheerio".

Jean Iris Murdoch was very much a product of her benign and cultivated background. She was born in Dublin after the end of the First World War, during which her father had served as a cavalry officer. But he was a bookish, intellectual man who, on demobilisation, joined the Civil Service. Her mother was also a cultured woman, who had trained as an opera singer before her early marriage. Iris was the only child, brought up as part of what she famously described as a "perfect trinity of love".

From the age of nine she was brought up in suburban London, but she always felt herself to be at least partly Irish, and throughout her childhood the family would spend their summer holidays there.

She was educated at the Froebel Educational Institute in London, and, from the age of 13, at a vaguely progressive school, Badminton, where she was a contemporary of Indira Gandhi.

Iris Murdoch began writing at an early age, partly, she believed, as compensation for having no siblings to play with. "I'm the only child in search of the imaginary brother or sister. That is probably why I like to invent characters," she once said. Her first published work appeared in a school magazine in 1933. A comic poem about a girl with "bluebottle eyes and a sense of vocation" whose chief interest is fishing for stars in the Milky Way, it shows the vein of humour mixed with the philosophical solemnity which was to characterise her work.

In 1938 Murdoch won the Harriet Needham Exhibition to Somerville College, Oxford, where she read Mods and Greats. There she found herself mixing with such stimulating figures as Raymond Williams, Philip Larkin, Edward Heath, Denis Healey and Roy Jenkins. Politically she was, at that time, on the far Left, and when Roy Jenkins wrote her a modest letter on some matter of party business, she penned him an impassioned reply, addressing him as "Comrade Jenkins". Her political preferences thereafter followed a well-trodden path. She moved to Gaitskellism in the 1950s, through the muddled attitudes of the Sixties, to moderate Conservatism in the 1970s and then to Thatcherism in the 1980s.



Iris Murdoch at the creative peak of her career as a novelist, in the early 1970s

Graduating with a first in Greats, she left Oxford to work during the war years in the Treasury under the formidable Evelyn Sharp. From there she was seconded to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and was sent first to Belgium and then to Austria, where, in her job in a camp for displaced people, she proved most adaptable, whether operating the switchboard or negotiating narrow roads behind the wheel of a heavy lorry.

In all this time she scarcely read a book, exhausted by the strenuous work. But passing through Brussels on the way out she had got what she described as a heady whiff of philosophy. She had met Sartre and, although previously she had considered archaeology or art history as her calling, she became fascinated by Existentialism. In Brussels she came across a bookshop owner who had pressed *L'Etre et le néant* into her hands. "It was wonderful," Murdoch said. "People were liberated by that book after the war, it made people happy, it was like the Gospel. Having been chained up for years, you were suddenly free and could be yourself."

On her return to England she decided that she wanted to return to academic life and applied for and won a scholarship to pursue her studies in the United States. But as a former member of the Communist Party — which she had briefly joined under the influence of a boyfriend, Frank Thompson, who was later killed in Bulgaria — she was refused a visa. The next year, 1947, she was awarded the Sarah Smithson Studentship in philosophy at Newnham College, Cambridge, and she studied there for a year before returning to Oxford as a tutor in philosophy and fellow of St Anne's. She was to hold this post for the next 15 years.

Her first book, *Sartre: Romantic Rationalist* (1953), reflected her youthful passion for Existentialism, though intellectually she was always to remain at a distance from Sartre, and he was later to become the subject of some of her most acute criticism. She found his view of lonely, self-determining man quite inaccurate, and her collection of essays *The Sovereignty of Good* (1970) showed a widening of her work into a general attack on analytic philosophy.

Plato, however — about whom she wrote in *The Fire and the Sun* (1977) — was to remain her abiding interest, as she probed for a wider metaphysical system from which to answer the questions of philosophy.

However, as she was the first to admit — and her detractors were quick to point out — she was not a philosopher of true originality. "Unless one is a genius, philosophy is a mug's game," one of her fictional characters says. Only a genius, Murdoch maintained, could ever make a real contribution to the subject. At the age of 35 she turned her hand to writing novels.

In her first novel, *Under the Net* (1954) — which was actually her fourth, since she discarded two and another did not find a publisher — she harked back to Existential themes as she traced the journey of a posse of rootless individuals traipsing round London in search of their identities. But unlike Sartre's, her novels were not simply the lumbering vehicles for philosophical ideas. "I might put in things about philosophy because I happen to know about philosophy," she said. "If I knew about sailing ships I would put in sailing ships."

Once she had begun to write, Murdoch scarcely seemed to pause, producing a new novel every year or so, with perhaps a break of half-an-hour between ending one and beginning the next. She began each with a period of "hard reflection" at the end of which every chapter would have been delineated and the characters moulded and given their names — usually improbable ones. At the end of the process, hefty shopping bags of manuscript would be presented to her publishers, Chatto & Windus, where the boast was that never a word was changed. She professed herself impervious to reviews. "A bad review," she used to say, "is even less important than whether it is raining in Patagonia."

Those who reproached her with publishing too much were perhaps missing the point: her project was one of imperfection, or imperfectibility even, as if the perfect — like the good, about which she meditated so deeply — was fundamentally beyond human achievement. If for her every novel was a fresh attempt to attain her ideal, she found each time that her ideal had moved on. She was always alert to the dangers of complacency. "I'm in the second league," she said, "not among the gods like Jane Austen and Henry James and Tolstoy."

Critics mostly felt that she was at the height of her powers in the 1960s and early 1970s, with works such as A Severed Head (1961), *The Italian Girl* (1964), *A Fairly Honourable Defeat* (1970), *The Black Prince* (1973) and *The Sacred and Profane Love Machine* (1974). Several of these were made into plays and films. *The Severed Head*, for instance, ran for nearly three years at the Criterion Theatre, and was made into a film starring Richard Attenborough. In 1978 she also published a collection of poems, *A Year of Birds*.

She received many honours in her life. She was appointed CBE in 1976 and advanced to DBE in 1987. She was six times shortlisted for the Booker Prize, and won it in 1978 with *The Sea, the Sea*.

In 1956 Iris Murdoch married John Bayley, later Warton Professor of English Literature and a fellow of St Catherine's College, Oxford. He looked out of his college window one day, he said, and seeing her cycling by knew at once that he would marry her. Together they lived a life of cosy intellectual companionship, haphazard domestic arrangements and bizarre culinary creations. It was reported by friends who had them to stay early in their married life that when taking up a pot of tea in the morning, they found Iris sitting bolt up in bed with her nose in Wittgenstein, while her husband lounged at her side perusing *Woman's Own*. They were to remain constant companions throughout their long marriage, and together were familiar figures in the literary world, both dressed from their favourite "good as new" shop. John Bayley cared for her with devotion and tenderness throughout her final years when Alzheimer's disease took an increasingly tenacious grip upon her once fine mind. He charted the cruel progress of the illness in his poignant and unflinchingly honest memoir *Iris*, published last year.

He survives her. There were no children.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The Royal Domestic College Pension Fund 206917
Reference: RW122248/CD(Ldn)
The Charity Commissioners propose to make an Order appointing trustees of this charity. Copies of the draft Order can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, St Albans House, 57-60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

BLOWES Amy Blowes widow late of Greenford, Middlesex died at Southall, Middlesex on 1 May 1998 (Estate about £12,500)
BOXALL nee BREWSTER Elsie Doris Boxall nee Brewster SINGLE WOMAN late of Halstead, Essex died there on 12th November 1998 (Estate about £80,000)
DOBING John Dobing otherwise James Dobing late of Stockton, Cleveland died there on 3 September 1998 (Estate about £11,000)
EVERITT David Everitt late of Ramsgate Kent died at Margate, Kent on 13 July 1998 (Estate about £8,100)
FAHEY James Francis Fahey late of Birkenhead died there on 20 June 1997 (Estate about £120,000)
GREENHALGH Marjorie Greenhalgh, spinster late of Streatham, London SW16 died Croydon, Surrey on 3 February 1998 (Estate about £40,000)
HARTHILL Edith Harthill widow late of Barnsley, South Yorkshire died there on 22 January 1998 (Estate about £6,000)
JOHNSTONE Maisie Johnstone widow late of Lancing, West Sussex died at Worthing, West Sussex on 22 February 1995 (Estate about £70,000)
JONES Kenneth Llewellyn Jones otherwise Kenneth Jones late of Southampton, Hampshire died there on 26 June 1998 (Estate about £39,000)
MANNIFIELD Arthur Mannifield late of Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire died at Lincoln on 15 December 1998 (Estate about £100,000)
MAYO Violet Hilda Minnie Harriet Mayo otherwise Violet Mayo Spinster late of Broadstairs, Kent died there on 8 January 1997 (Estate about £7,500)
MOSES otherwise MORTON Edward Ernest Moses otherwise Edward Ernest Morton late of Corby, Northamptonshire died there on 25 September 1997 (Estate about £30,000)
WAS nee KURBAT Genowefa Was nee Kurbat widow late of Derby died there on 14th May 1998 (Estate about £11,000)
WEGRZYN Tadeusz Wegrzyn late of Boxhill, Tadworth, Surrey died there on 5 July 1998 (Estate about £65,000)
WEST Gwendoline May West Spinster late of Catford, London SE6 died there on 11 September 1998 (Estate about £9,000)
The kin of the above named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

LEGAL NOTICES

Mutual of Omaha U.K. Limited
On 3 February 1999 the solvent Scheme of Arrangement between the above mentioned company and its creditors became effective.
Philip Singer and Paul Evans, partners in the UK firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers have been appointed Scheme Administrators of the company.
Notice is hereby given that under the terms of the Scheme, creditors have 3 months from the Scheme becoming effective to submit claims against the company to the Scheme Administrators. No claims can be admitted after the deadline on 4 May 1999 (being 3 months from 3 February 1999).
All correspondence concerning creditors claims should be addressed to the following office where further claim forms may also be obtained if necessary:-
Mutual of Omaha U.K. Limited
C/O PricewaterhouseCoopers
Plumtree Court (PC 429)
London, EC4A 4HT
United Kingdom
Telephone no. +44 (0) 171 212 6442
Facsimile no. +44 (0) 171 212 6316

NETICA PLC AND INTERNETICA LIMITED
(In Receivership)
Notice is hereby given that meetings of the unsecured creditors of the above companies will be held pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986 at the offices of Moore Stephens Booth White, 1/2 Little King Street, Bristol BS1 4HW on the 19th February 1999 at 10.00 a.m. for the purposes of receiving the report of the Administrative receivers and if thought fit, appointing a creditors committee. A copy of that report will be available to all known unsecured creditors free of charge following the meeting should they contact the Administrative Receivers at the above address. A creditor will be entitled to vote only if a written statement of claim is submitted to me at the above address by 12.00 noon on the 18th February 1999 and if the claim is admitted for voting purposes. Any proxies that are intended to be used must be submitted to me before the meeting. A creditor whose claim is wholly secured is not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.
PETER ANTHONY LAWRENCE
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ROBERT BARR

Robert Barr, BBC war correspondent and television writer and producer, died on January 30 aged 89. He was born on December 22, 1909.

GOOD observation of both facts and feelings, the ability to write fast to a formula, and a taste for action made Robert Barr first a noted war correspondent and then a successful BBC producer. Later he became a freelance writer and producer, working particularly on series about the police and espionage.

Robert Barr was born in Glasgow and left school at 15 to train as a chemist. Soon, however, he had found himself a reporter's job with the *Glasgow Bulletin*, and by 19 he was already Editor of the *Kilmarnock Herald*.

Work in London followed, on the *Daily Mirror* and the *Daily Mail*, where he was writing features when war broke out. He had also submitted some radio plays to the BBC, and in 1939 his contacts there landed him the job he hoped for, working with the chief war correspondent, Richard Dimbleby. Initially he reported on the convoys plying in the North Sea.

By 1944 he was well enough established to be one of four journalists given an attachment to General Eisenhower's personal staff in Portsmouth, reporting on the build-up to the invasion of Europe. The day after D-Day he crossed the Channel in a destroyer, landing on Juno Beach and gathering material there for some time before returning to base. A fortnight later, he was back near the French coast, with Churchill aboard HMS *Kelvin*, and he subsequently followed Eisenhower right up to his arrival in Paris in 1944.



After the war, Barr became a radio features producer, and after making a programme to advertise the delights of television, he moved into the new medium itself in 1946. He wrote the BBC's first-ever documentary, *Germany Under Control*, and the first full-length documentary, *Report on Germany*. These were among the first of many, but Barr also liked to work in the hybrid form of the drama-documentary, and one such programme, *Medico* — about medical services for ships at sea — won one of three Italia Prizes for the BBC in 1959 (another of them being for Samuel Beckett's radio play *Embers*).

During the 1960s Barr had a part in the creation of one of the landmark series in British television, *Z Cars*, of which he was executive producer. Created by Troy Kennedy Martin and Elwyn Jones, *Z Cars* portrayed police work in the fictious Newtown not as the work of glamorous or leisured detectives, but as a tough job in a poor, working-class area. Within weeks it achieved viewing figures of 14 million — which meant that a quarter of the British population was watching — and the series ran for 667 episodes, right up to 1978.

In the meantime, in 1966, another series about detective work — *Softly Softly* — was spun off from *Z Cars*, by the expedient of promoting Detective Inspector Barlow (played by Stratford Johns) to Chief Inspector, and giving him a regional crime squad.

As well as scripts for these two series, Barr also wrote for *Maigret*. His work was sometimes criticised as mundane and lacking in real dramatic tension, but whether he was writing about a murder investigation or an outbreak of smallpox, it was always neatly constructed and conclusive.

Perhaps his best series was *Spycatcher* (1959), based on the memoirs of MI5's chief wartime interrogator, Colonel Oreste Pinto. Some of his television material was recycled in his novels *The Dark Island* and *The Edge of the Forest*. For Yorkshire Television he created a series about a local newspaper, *Gazette*, later better known as *Hadleigh*.

Robert Barr married Janet Connell in 1936. She died in 1996, but he is survived by their daughter.

ON THIS DAY

February 9, 1972

The miners' strike — over pay — began on January 9, causing black-outs and a three-day week. On February 25 the miners voted 2-1 for a deal put forward by the Wilberforce inquiry.

Emergency proclamation today to save power

By David Wood, Political Editor

Acting for the Queen, who left London for a visit to South-East Asia yesterday, a Council of State will proclaim a state of emergency today to ensure the maintenance of essential supplies and services for the duration of the miners' strike.

Linked with this government move was an initiative by Mr Carr, Secretary of State for Employment, to meet the miners' leaders today to explore again the possibilities for a settlement.

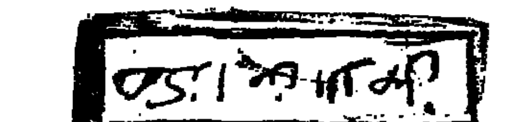
The decision to issue a royal proclamation and take sweeping emergency powers was reached at a meeting of the Cabinet emergency committee yesterday morning. The Prime Minister is understood to have informed the Queen.

Contrary to practice, the committee's decision to arm the Government with contingency powers was informally made known before the Privy Council could meet today. The explanation is that the Government had to go into a Commons debate yesterday on an opposition motion condemning the Government's handling of the strike, and senior ministers felt the only frank course was to announce their intention. Otherwise, Mr Wilson and the Opposition would have had a genuine grievance.

It had been clear since the Cabinet emergency committee met last Thursday that a move towards an emergency would be made this week. The Government did not want to seem to be acting provocatively, but there were warnings that had to be heeded from the power industries that stocks of coal were falling. Senior ministers could not delay in protecting essential services and supplies. Nevertheless, the sweeping powers taken under a royal proclamation will be sensitively and sparingly used.

There is no present intention, for instance, of bringing in the Armed Forces to maintain essential services, although the emergency regulations will provide that power. For the present, the Government will be content to control floodlighting and display lighting and other uses of power not regarded as essential.

Beyond that, Mr Davies, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, will be mainly responsible for bringing forward orders that prove to be necessary if the miners' strike is prolonged. The Privy Council will today tender advice to the Council of State, acting for the Queen. The proclamation will then be made, and Mr Maudling, Home Secretary, will report it to the Commons.



Queen's Bench Divisional Court — Law Report February 9 1999

Specifying address for council

Hall v Kingston upon Hull City Council
Ireland v Birmingham City Council
Baker v Birmingham City Council

Before Lord Justice Rose and Mr Justice Mitchell

[Judgment January 14]

A local authority could specify through a person other than its secretary or clerk an alternative address at which it could be served with a notice under section 82(6) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 of intention to bring proceedings in respect of a statutory nuisance under section 79(1) of the 1990 Act.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so *held* in a reserved judgment when allowing appeals by way of case stated by Susan Hall against the decisions of Kingston upon Hull Justices on May 7, 1998 and by Margaret Ireland and Elizabeth Baker against the decisions of Birmingham Justices on June 9 and August 13, 1998 respectively, that letters in the cases of Hall and Baker and notices in the cases of Ireland and Baker, sent by officers of the respondents' housing department to the appellants did not provide an alternative address at which the respondent would accept service of a section 82(6) notice.

Mr Michael Supperstone, QC and Mr Michael Singleton for Hall and Ireland; Mr Michael Supperstone, QC and Mr Stephen Knafler for Baker; Mr James Findlay for the respondents.

MR JUSTICE MITCHELL said that the appellants complained to the respondent that the premises of which they were tenants to the respondents, were in a state which constituted a statutory nuisance under section 79(1)(a) of the 1990 Act.

In the cases of Hall and Baker the housing department of the respondent council wrote to the appellants stating that all correspondence in relation to notices under section 82 of the 1990 Act of summary proceedings under section 79(1)(a) of the 1990 Act, which were required as a pre-requisite to bringing proceedings, should be sent to the council technical services manager and housing department.

The terms and conditions of Baker and Ireland's tenancy stated that all statutory nuisances had to be reported to the housing team. The appellants accordingly sent notices under section 82(6) of the 1990 Act to bring proceedings to the alternative addresses specified, which were not the registered or principle addresses of the respondents.

Informations laid by the appellants alleging nuisance under section 79(1)(a) of the 1990 Act were dismissed by the magistrates on the grounds that service of the section 82(6) notices had been to the wrong address and therefore invalid.

His Lordship said that section 160(4) of the 1990 Act provided that the proper address of a body corporate, its secretary or clerk at which it was to be served with a notice was the registered or principal office address of the body.

Section 160(3)(a) of the 1990 Act provided that service of a notice on a body corporate could be achieved by service on its secretary or clerk.

However, section 160(5) of the 1990 Act provided that the person to be served or given the notice could specify an address other than his proper address as one at which he would accept notices.

There was no reason to interpret section 160(5) as confining, on the basis of section 160(3), the category of persons who could specify an alternative address in the case of a body corporate to the secretary or clerk, who were simply vehicles by which the person to be served could be served.

Section 82(4) provided that the person to be served for the purposes of the Act was the person responsible for the nuisance, in this case the landlord local authorities, or the owner of the premises.

Under section 160(5) it was the local authority who had power to specify. The Act did not identify the class of persons who could on behalf of a body corporate, specify for the purposes of section 160(5), and it did not matter that the precise communicator who specified could not be identified or was not a secretary or clerk of the body corporate.

The rationale of the section 82 procedure was that it should be operable by ordinary people who might be unsophisticated, inarticulate or without legal advice, providing them with a speedy and effective remedy from a nuisance which might have an adverse effect upon their health or that of their children.

Parliament's intention, in the absence of compelling statutory language, should not be frustrated by introducing into that straightforward and swift statutory remedy any technical obstacle of which the ordinary citizen would almost certainly be unaware.

Accordingly, the appeals would be allowed as the section 82(6) notices were properly served at a specified alternative address and the cases would be remitted to the magistrates courts for rehearing.

Lord Justice Rose agreed.

Solicitors: Sydney Mitchell, Birmingham; Sydney Mitchell, Birmingham; Mr Richard Deith, Kingston upon Hull and Mr Stewart Dobson, Birmingham.

No tax exemption after mortgage transfer

West (Inspector of Taxes) v O'Neill
Same v Crossland

Before Mr Justice Lindsay

[Judgment January 22]

Employees of building societies who received concessionary rates of interest on their mortgages at the time they were taken out did not become entitled to income tax exemption under section 161(1A) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 on those beneficial loans when subsequently they opted to transfer to a fixed rate scheme also available to the general public.

Mr Justice Lindsay so held in a reserved judgment upholding the Crown's income tax appeal brought by way of case stated from determinations of general commissioners for North East Wiltshire that were in favour of two employees of the Nationwide Building Society, David John O'Neill and Kevin Gerard Crossland.

Section 160 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 provides for "Beneficial loan arrangements", imposing a charge on an employee of "an amount equal to whatsoever is the cash equivalent of the benefit of the loan" obtained by reason of his employment.

Section 161(1A) of the 1988 Act, inserted by section 88 of the Finance Act 1994, provides an exemption from the charge if "comparable loans were available, at the time the loan in question was made" to the general public.

Mr Christopher Tidmarsh for the Crown; Mr David Milne, QC and Mr R. Vallat for the taxpayers.

MR JUSTICE LINDSAY said that the facts were not in dispute. The taxpayers were both employed by the Nationwide Building Society. In 1993 they had received loans from Nationwide secured on their homes at a concessionary rate of interest of 4 per cent on the first £30,000 of each loan. Section 160 of the 1988 Act applied to the loans.

In January 1994 the taxpayers switched their mortgages into a two-year fixed rate scheme with interest fixed at 5.5 per cent, a rate that was also then available to the general public. There was no repayment of the existing loans but the taxpayers agreed terms that had not previously been in force.

They appealed to the commissioners in respect of assessments to Schedule E income tax for 1994-95 that included a charge under section 160 arising from the beneficial loans from Nationwide.

The commissioners decided that the change by each of the taxpayers from one product of the Nationwide to another product amounted to a new loan and that the new loan was made at the time that the new loan took effect and that the exempting provisions of section 161(1A) of the Act were accordingly satisfied.

It was implicit in the Crown's argument that if it was right to regard the loan to the taxpayers as having been made at the time of the switch to the 5.5 per cent fixed rate scheme then the section 161(1A) exemption applied.

But, Mr Tidmarsh said, the loans were made when, and only when, the sums were advanced in 1993 and, properly regarded, they did not satisfy the conditions of the exemption.

Thus the crucial issue was to establish when, for section 161(1A) purposes, the loans were made. Was it when they were first made or, alternatively, at the date of the switch?

Mr Milne said that there was a new contract of loan when the switch took place. The switch represented a new loan. Where there was a new deal there was a new contract.

Alternatively, he argued, even if any change in the agreed terms did not lead to a new loan, at least that had to be the case when the changes were so fundamental as in this case; a change from varying to fixed rate of interest.

Third, it was said by Mr Milne, that even if the Crown's interpretation was the more natural reading of the provision it was absurd and manifestly unjust and should be rejected.

Those arguments were unacceptable. For section 161(1A) purposes, at least in the case of comparatively simple loans, a loan was made only when first made and its principal advanced.

That was the natural construction of the provision. A loan could not be said to be made on evidence of a switch such as in the instant case which was merely a variation of the terms of the existing loan.

There was no evidence that new loans were made and the taxpayers were not entitled to the exemption.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Mr Steve Hamilton, Northampton.

Court of Appeal

Each partner becomes a trustee

Don King Productions Inc v Warren and Others

Before Lord Justice Morritt, Lord Justice Aldous and Lord Justice Hutchison

[Judgment December 21]

A partnership agreement to assign each partner's contracts to the partnership, which was ineffective because the contracts were for personal services and contained terms expressly forbidding assignment, constituted each partner a trustee of the non-assignable contracts for the benefit of the partnership.

The benefit to which the partnership was entitled did not terminate on or by reason of the dissolution of the partnership but continued until the contract expired or was properly disposed of in the *winding up of the partnership's affairs.*

The Court of Appeal so stated dismissing an appeal by the first defendant, Frank Warren; the second defendant, Christopher Roberts; and the fourth defendant, Sports Network USA Inc, from the decision of Mr Justice Lightman (*The Times* April 13, 1998; [1998] 2 All ER 608) whereby he determined a number of preliminary issues in an action brought between the plaintiff, Don King Productions Inc and, among others, the above defendants.

Mr Warren was a manager and promoter of professional boxers primarily in the United Kingdom. Mr Don King was a promoter, but not a manager, of professional boxers primarily in the United States of America. In September 1994 Mr Warren and Mr King, through their companies, entered into a partnership for the promotion of professional boxing in Europe.

The terms of the partnership were contained first, in an agreement dated September 16, 1994 and, second, in an agreement dated April 25, 1995 which superseded the first agreement.

Following the dissolution of the partnership questions arose, how in the winding up of the partnership, contracts for the management or promotion of professional boxers made between them and Mr Warren, Mr King and their respective companies should be applied.

The judge declared that the entire benefit of such contracts, including any renewals concluded before the completion of the winding up of the partnership's affairs, was held by Mr Warren and Mr King and their respective companies on trust for the partnership.

Mr Alan Steinfeld, QC and Mr Hugh Tomlinson for the first, second and fourth defendants; Mr Michael Briggs QC, Mr Nicholas Le Poidevin and Mr Douglas Close for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE MORRITT said that Mr Steinfeld contended first, that the benefit of the management and promotion contracts was not "property" within the meaning of that word as used in the Partnership Act 1890.

Second, he argued that even if the benefit of such contracts was "property" within the meaning of the 1890 Act, because of their nature they could not be "brought into the partnership stock" or "acquired ... on account of the firm" so as to become partnership property for the purposes of section 20 of the 1890 Act.

Third, he argued that the judge's construction of the first and second partnership agreements was wholly uncommercial and inconsistent with the words used.

Fourth, he submitted that, even if his first three submissions were rejected, management and promotion contracts concluded by either partner in the period between the dissolution and the completion of the winding up of the partnership with a boxer with whom there was such a contract at the date of the dissolution were not partnership assets.

His Lordship did not accept Mr Steinfeld's first submission. With regard to *Nokes v Doncaster Amalgamated Collieries Ltd* ([1940] AC 1014), and the speech of Viscount Simon, Lord Chancellor, on which he relied; the speeches of Lord Atkin with whom Lord Thankerton agreed, and Lord Porter both made clear that their decisions were based on the proposition that the definition of "property" in the Companies Act 1929 was confined to property which was transferable by the parties.

As the employment contract in question was not so transferable it did not come within the definition. Thus, in *Nokes*, the meaning of the word "property" was limited by its context. The House of Lords did not decide that the ordinary meaning of the word was limited.

Further, it was plain that property which was not assignable might, nevertheless, be partnership property: see *Ambler v Bolton* ((1872) LR 14 Eq 427) and *Pathirana v Pathirana* ([1967] AC 233).

His Lordship rejected Mr Steinfeld's second submission for similar reasons. The question whether, in the terms of section 20 of the 1890 Act an asset was "brought into partnership stock or acquired ... on account of the firm ... or for the purposes and in the course of partnership business" did not depend on whether it was assignable at law. In both *Ambler* and *Pathirana* the asset was inalienable.

As for Mr Steinfeld's third submission, the question, in his Lordship's view, was whether on the contruction of the first and second agreements the management and promotion contracts became part of the partnership property because they were (i) "originally brought into the common stock" by the agreement of the partners, or (ii) were subsequently "acquired, by purchase or otherwise, on account of the firm or for the purposes of the firm and in the course of partnership business".

His Lordship agreed with the judge that:

(a) at the time of the dissolution of the partnership the entire benefit of such of the management or promotion agreements with a European registered boxer concluded by either Mr Warren or Don King Productions since September 16, 1994 as were then still in force was held by that partner on trust for the partnership;

(b) the benefit to which the partnership was so entitled did not terminate on or by reason of such dissolution but continued until such time as the contract expired or was properly disposed of in the winding up of the partnership's affairs; and

(c) subject to the judge's proviso the entire benefit of all management or promotion agreements concluded by a partner after the date of the dissolution but before the conclusion of the winding up of the partnership's affairs with a boxer with whom such partner had such an agreement at the date of the dissolution was also held on trust for the partnership.

Lord Justice Aldous and Lord Justice Hutchison agreed.

Solicitors: Dibb Lupton Alsop; Bird & Bird.

Power to allow disqualified director to act

Shuttleworth v Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

Before Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor

[Judgment January 27]

On an application under section 17 of the Directors' Disqualification Act 1986 for leave to act as a director during the currency of a disqualification, the discretion of the court was unfettered.

The fact that the applicant's need was personal and not a business interest was no reason to shackle the court's discretion by the creation of conditions not in the legislation where, on the facts, the *balance between the importance of* protecting the public from the conduct which led to the disqualification and the need that the applicant should be able to act as a director of a particular company, was in favour of granting leave.

Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor, so held in the Chancery Division granting leave pursuant to section 17 of the 1986 Act for the applicant, Hugh Ashton John Shuttleworth, to act as a director of Maxmail, an unlimited liability company.

On February 4, 1997 the Vice-Chancellor had made an order under section 6 of the 1986 Act disqualifying Mr Shuttleworth from acting as a company director without the leave of the court for a period of five years.

Mr Orlando Fraser for the applicant; Ms Sarah Harman for the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said the application raised again *the question of the court's approach* to section 17 and whether it was essential to demonstrate need, whether of the applicant or the company. The reasons for the disqualification order were therefore of the greatest importance.

There had been no suggestion during the disqualification proceedings that the applicant had acted dishonestly or with want of any probity and all the creditors had all been paid in full.

His Lordship referred to a number of cases concerning the question of need for the purposes of section 17, inter alia: *In re Gibson Davies Ltd* ([1995] BCC 11), *In re Amaron Ltd* ([1998] BCC 264), *Secretary of State for Trade and Industry v Barnett* ([1998] 2 BCLC 64) and *In re Barings plc* (*The Times* October 10, 1998).

The importance of protecting the public from the sort of conduct which led to a disqualification order being made against a director had to be balanced against the need for the applicant to be able to act as a director of a particular company. The factors to be taken into account were not to be limited so as to exclude a personal non-business purpose of the applicant.

Parliament had given the court an unfettered discretion and it was not for the court to limit the ambit of that discretion.

Solicitors: Titmuss Sainer Dechert; Treasury Solicitor.

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Rodney Hobson on progress in matching Britain's investors and entrepreneurs

UK network for funding angels takes wing today

A NON-PROFITMAKING organisation that aims to double the business angels sector over the next five years is launched today.

It is backed by the Department of Trade and Industry, the Corporation of London, five big banks and leading firms of accountants and solicitors.

National Business Angels Network (NABN) is taking over the existing network of 850 registered investors and 200 investment opportunities on the books of the Local Investment Networking Company. NatWest Bank is also integrating its own angels introductory service into the new organisation. Other UK business angels networks will be invited to discuss how to expand the sector.

Robert Drummond, a former venture capitalist who is chief executive of NABN, says: "It is my belief that the activity of business angels in the UK has been held back by fragmentation and a lack of understanding, so we want to make the process simple and low-cost. I see no reason why we should not raise the number of business angels in the UK to the level of that in the US where there are two and a half times as many per head of population."

Michael Snyder, senior partner in Kingston Smith, the accountancy firm, and NABN chairman, says: "Our role will be to create an open environment in which the movement can flourish, and an increasing number of business angels and the growth companies that need them can be brought together.

"As a non-profitmaking organisation, we are non-partisan. It is not our intention to compete with other business angels organisations but to act as a catalyst and a clearing house, bringing investors and companies together through a simple-to-use introduction service and leaving others to advise on the completion of the deals. We aim to provide a single point of entry through which all potential investors and companies seeking funds can plug into the business angels infrastructure throughout the country."

Apart from NatWest, the bank sponsors are Barclays, HSBC, Lloyds TSB and the Royal Bank of Scotland. Reynolds Porter Chamberlain, solicitors, and Kingston Smith are also giving their support.

Business angels are wealthy individuals willing to invest in growing firms. They are often self-made, with entrepreneurial backgrounds, and are usually over 45. Only 1 per cent are female. Usually they will invest between £10,000 and £50,000 and they are likely to want some say in the company they are backing. More than one angel may back a particular investment and it is estimated that a third of deals involve a total of more than £100,000.

Angels tend to avoid the spotlight, so estimates of the size of the market are mainly guesswork. There could be about 18,000 angels actively seeking investments and ready to put up to £500 million a year in about 3,500 businesses.

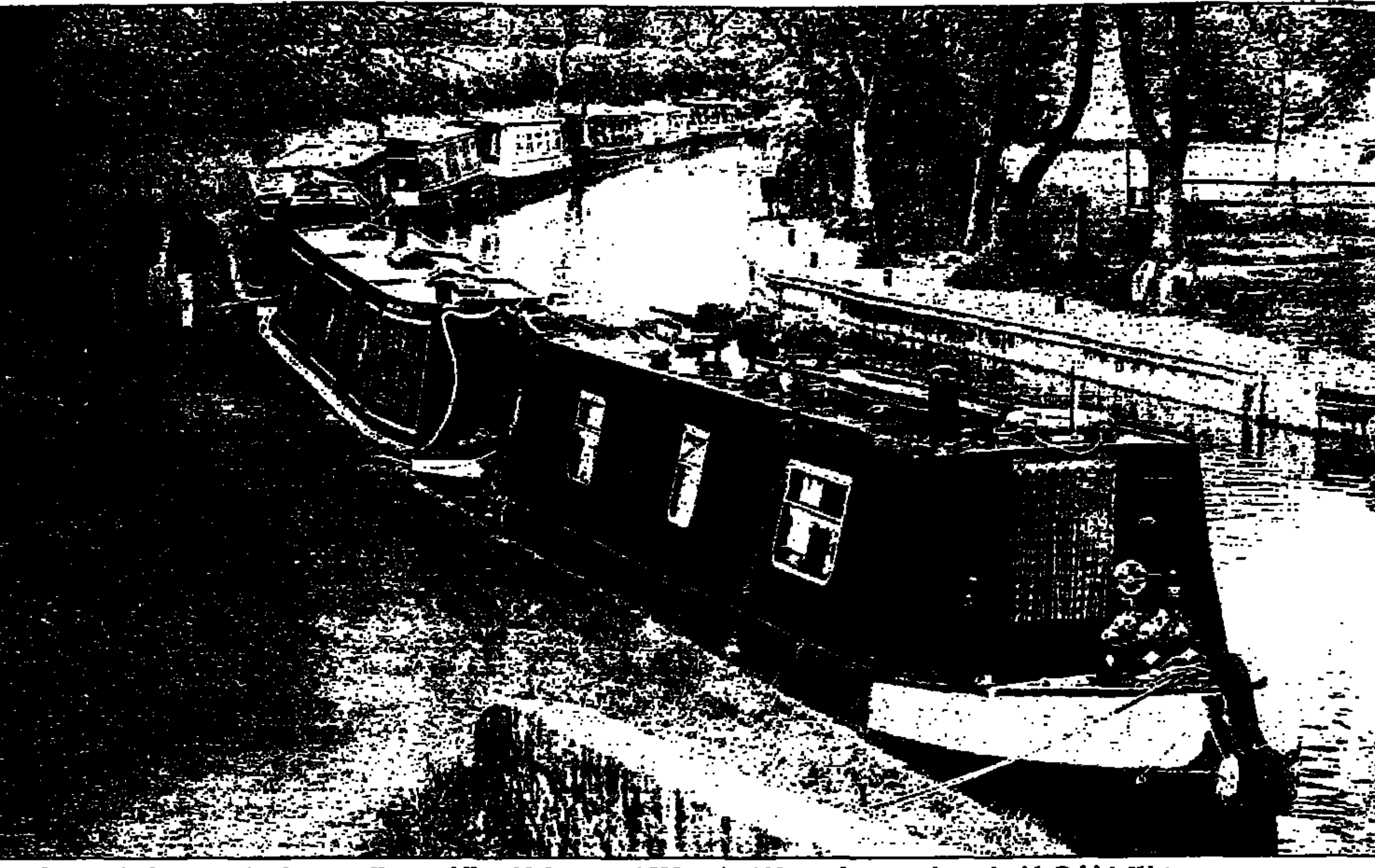
They are a crucial source of funding for start-ups and growing companies that are too small to attract funds from venture capitalists.

Angels and businesses seeking equity finance will join the new network by filling in a simple application form. The annual fee is £100 plus VAT for businesses and £85 plus VAT for angels. Businesses that are accepted will be put on the network website and be included in a publication for six months.

NABN is at 40-42 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6JJ. Its information pack hotline is 0171-329 4141.



WEBSITE: www.nationalbusangels.co.uk



GILL ALLEN

The canal leisure market is expanding rapidly with between 1,500 and 2,000 new boats registered with British Waterways every year

Backer helps push the boats out

THE fifth company to benefit from the Welsh Development Agency's Xenos scheme is Fibreline Boats, of Brynmawr, South Wales. A business angel put in £75,000.

Fibreline makes narrow boats for the growing canal leisure market. They look like traditional narrow boats, but are made of glass-reinforced plastic, which has for years been the most popular material for yachts. Weighing less than eight tonnes, the boats will be lighter, stronger, easier to handle and easier to repair than conventional steelplate vessels. Their propulsion system has been designed to do less harm to canal banks and the lighter boats use less fuel and cause less damage in a collision.

With backing from Lloyds TSB and Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, Fibreline produced prototype and pre-production models at its factory on the Barleyfield Industrial Estate at Brynmawr. Interior fittings included kitchens, bedrooms, shower rooms and lounges.

A presentation to a group of potential investors at Swansea brought financial backing from David Bibby, a businessman based at Bridgend. Production of the 45ft-long boats will start soon and Fibreline expects to employ 20 people when it is fully operational.

The company is aiming its products at a market that is likely to expand significantly as more canals are restored and made navigable again. There are 3,000 miles of navigable waterway in Britain, with the potential of a further 2,200 miles becoming available.

It is estimated that between 1,500 and 2,000 new canal boats are registered with British Waterways every year.

Victor Parkin, Fibreline's chairman, said: "The market has changed considerably over the past ten years. As well as the diehard traditionalists who would only contemplate a steel boat, there are a growing number of people who want glass-reinforced fibre ones. In the past, technical difficulties have limited the length of boats to under 32ft, but there are now a lot of canal users who want a longer leisure craft with its increased facilities."

Welsh Xenos scheme gets £20m

THE Welsh Development Agency has recruited 70 business angels with £20 million to invest to support its Xenos scheme.

The WDA is now working to link them with a database of 120 companies seeking investment. Four deals worth a total of nearly £500,000 have already been completed.

Xenos — Greek for stranger — was launched in Cardiff in September 1997 as a partnership between the WDA, the Welsh Office, Business Connect (the Welsh equivalent of Business Links) and CBI Wales, with support from the European Regional Development Fund.

The small business sector is seen as particularly important to the Welsh economy. Despite regeneration over the past ten years, Wales still has a gross domestic product that is 17 per cent below the UK average, low wage levels and low average household income.

A report by CBI Wales showed a reluctance by large investors to lend relatively small sums to firms with no track record. Xenos aims to plug the equity gap by funding ventures requiring up to £200,000.

The Xenos network manager is Ray Hurcombe, a chartered certified accountant and formerly an investment manager for a small investor in South Wales. He is also a former director of Innovation Wales and Rhondda Development Agency.

A network of Xenos co-ordinators is based at Bangor, Newtown, Carmarthen and Cardiff.

Program lets small firms fight 2000 bug

By Manus Costello

A COMPUTER software program to help small firms to see whether their computers will crash at the start of 2000 has been developed by an international company based at Fareham, Hampshire. The program was initially used by big corporations, such as Glaxo Wellcome.

The Check 2000 Small Business Edition launched by Greenwich Mean Time will locate any problems in the five layers of a computer system and show a user how to fix them. Users put the disk in the PC, and instructions will take them through levels with a problem. The small business version costs £29.95.

Action 2000, the government advisory body, spoke to more than 3,000 businesses and found that, at the end of last year, more than half of firms with between 10 and 250 staff and 76 per cent of those with fewer than ten workers had taken no action on the millennium bug.

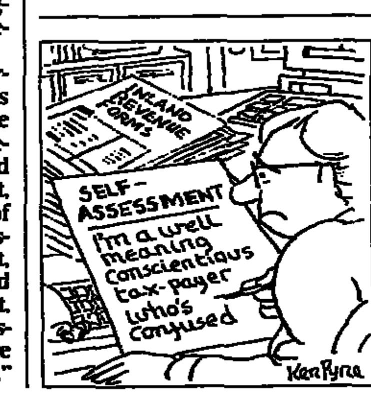
Karl Feilder, GMT chief executive and an adviser to the Government on PC millennium bug issues, says the findings were worrying. "Our research showed that of 4,000 commonly used PC software programs, more than 64 per cent had the potential, during normal usage and operation, to be adversely affected by dates at the end of this century and into the next," he said.

Action 2000 is to list bug-busting products on its website later this year; it already offers a guide to how software may be affected.

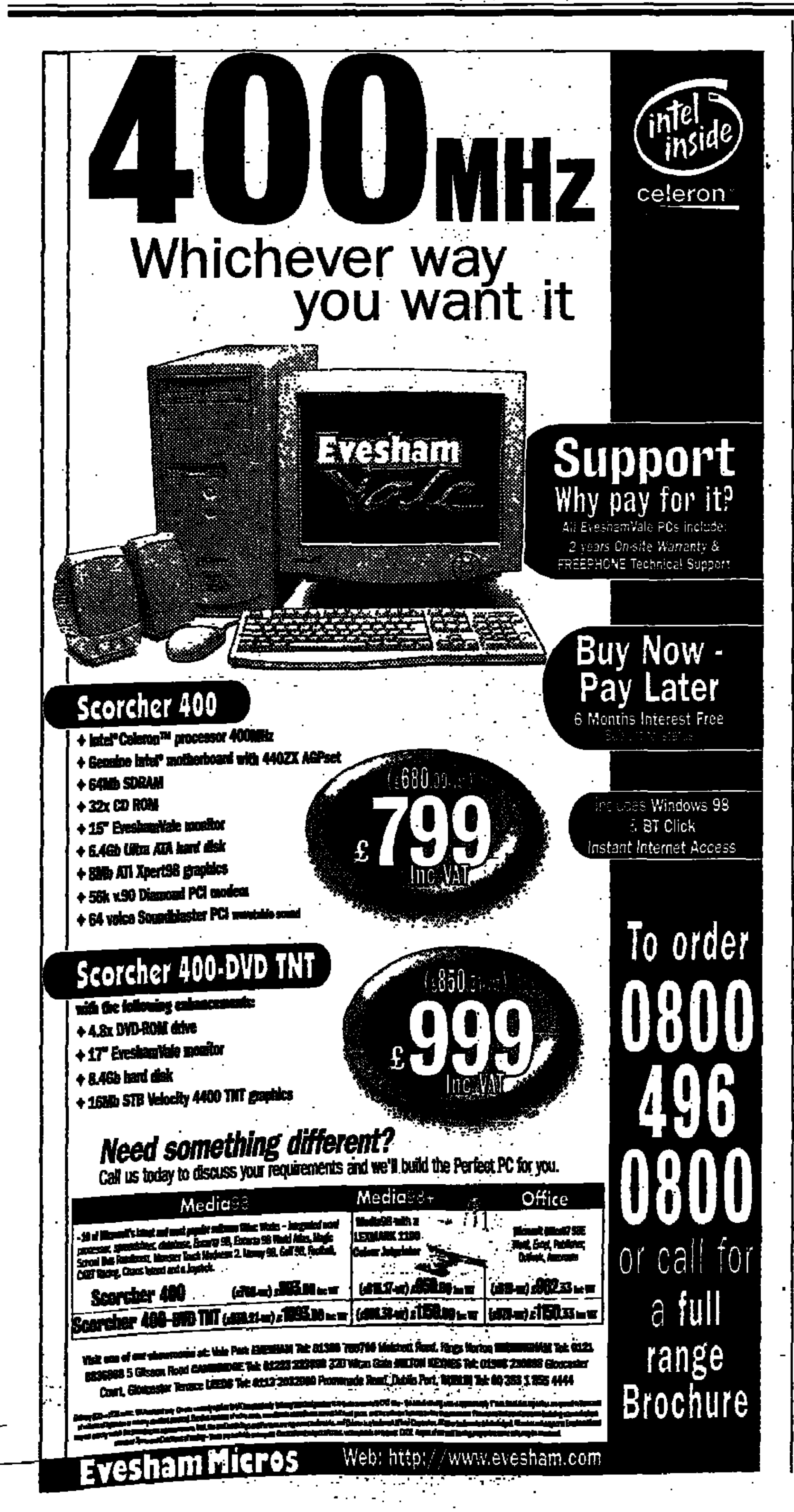
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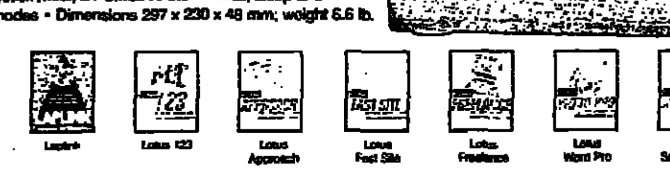
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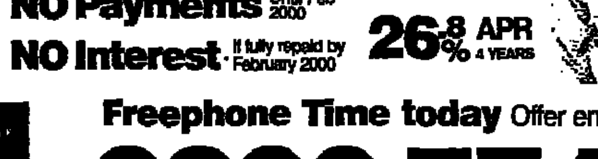
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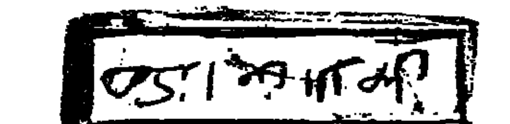
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TD 22



صورة من الأصل



Number two: Deon Burton leaps high to score the winning goal for Derby against Everton at Pride Park on Sunday. Photograph by Shaun Botterill, Allsport

£1,000 bonanza in store for next weekly winner

Next weekend, the fifth round of the AXA-sponsored FA Cup takes precedence over FA Carling Premiership fixtures, so, with only three games scheduled to be played affecting the *Times* Fantasy League lists (last night's Charlton v Wimbledon game, and next Saturday's Charlton-Liverpool and West Ham-Nottingham Forest matches), there will be no award of a £500 weekly prize for the period February 8-15.

The player lists will, however, be updated to include points earned and lost by players taking part in those three games, and the prize money will be "rolled over", so that the weekly winner announced on these pages in a fortnight will receive a double prize of £1,000 plus £100 worth of Puma sports equipment.

■ Today we publish two more ON-Target numbers. Check your team total against the player lists (right). If the total matches either of the ON-Target numbers (7 or 14), follow the instructions to find out if you have won the £500 prize. Even if your team total is some way short of the 37 scored by our winner this week, you could still equal his winnings.

Next week, we will publish the name of the winner of this week's ON-Target competition. There will not, however, be any new ON-Target numbers. Instead, as in the case of the weekly prize for the top team, the week's ON-Target prize money will be "rolled over", so that the winner the following week will receive a double prize of £1,000.

■ If you have Nottingham Forest defenders in your team, prepare to shed them now. The biggest home defeat in the seven-year history of the Premier League (a record that Sheffield Wednesday, 7-1 losers at home to - of all teams - Nottingham Forest in 1995, will be relieved to have given up) leaves Dave Beasant and company with some pretty considerable deficits.

Scores of minus seven each for Beasant and Jon Olav Hjelde were as bad as things are likely to get in one single match, but the state of the Forest side in general does not bode well for the remainder of a difficult season.

Although Alan Rogers saved some of his reputation (and three points) with a goal — and that, don't forget, was the equaliser — it cannot disguise the deficiencies in Ron Atkinson's back division. Indeed, the score in the game could have been more than 8-1; some estimated that 14-4 would have been a fairer reflection of play.

That may give some consolation to any Fantasy League entrant with Steve Stone, Jean-Claude Darchville or even Pierre Van Hooijdonk in their selections, but it may be that Manchester United had largely stopped bothering about marking, preferring the view that attack was, as it proved, by far the best form of defence.

Beasant's season score now stands at minus 21, with Hjelde only four better off. Steve Chettle, who, mercifully, missed Saturday's drubbing, has a score of minus 11, level with Sasa Ilic, the only player in the Fantasy League lists from a team other than Forest to have reached double minus figures.

For the price of a Dave Beasant, you could sign Pavel Srnicek of Sheffield Wednesday (nine points) and have something left over, while trading Hjelde in would bring in enough to buy you Jacob Laursen (13 points) or Dave Watson (15).

PRIZES

- £50,000 *to the top Fantasy League manager, plus a trip for two to the European Cup final*
- £10,000 *to the runner-up*
- £5,000 *for third place*
- £1,000 *monthly prizes: eight prizes of £1,000, plus £100 of Puma sports equipment*
- £500 *weekly prizes: 36 prizes of £500, plus £100 of Puma sports equipment*
- £1,000 *youth prize, plus monthly prizes of a Premiership football shirt*
- *£500 weekly On-Target prize*

As I was saying

With France, the world champions, in town tomorrow to play England, I was fantasising about an all-French Fantasy League team.

Interesting, but difficult; after all, most of the French players in the Premiership play for two clubs, and you can only pick one player from Arsenal and one from Chelsea.

That's right, of course, and old Guivarc'h has gone to Glasgow.

Oh yes, I was forgetting him. But of course he's a forward, and France won the World Cup without using any of them.

Well, what about French-speaking, then? That'll give me the pick of Belgians and Francophone Swiss.

Stephane Henchoz of Blackburn, and that's about it, as far as I can see.

In that case, what about Camerounians and Moroccans? That'll give us Rigobert Song of Liverpool, the lad Foe at West Ham, and Hassan Kachloul down at Southampton.

Still not enough for a team. What about a World Cup memorial XI?

Yes, then you could have Solskjaer in. He played for Norway, didn't he?

Yes, but you might want a Manchester United player from another country.

Which is odd, because I always thought that, with a name like Gunnar, he'd be a natural to play for Arsenal.

But Ricky Villa never played in Birmingham, and I don't notice Big Ron signing Craig Forrest.

And Trevor Cherry never played for Bournemouth.

Point taken. Anyway, my Arsenal player will be David Seaman — the last of the great English goalkeepers. We used to have so many, and now all the Premiership clubs have European goalkeepers.

Isn't England in Europe, then?

You know what I mean. And I think I'll have Slaven Bilic.

He's not even an Everton regular, is he?

Yes, but if not for his ridiculous piece of play-acting that got Blanc sent off in the semi-final, Frank Leboeuf would never have played against Brazil.

In that case, you might as well pick "a mystery ailment".

Come again?

The mystery ailment that struck down Ronaldo the night before the final. Otherwise, Leboeuf would have been marking the real McCoy. And then we probably wouldn't have had to listen to all these French players going on and on about how they won the World Cup in the first place.




HOW TO ENTER YOUR FANTASY LEAGUE TEAM

Select a team of 11 Premiership players from those listed right. The total value of your team must not exceed £50m and you cannot choose more than one player from the same Premiership club. Your team must be in a 4-4-2 formation with: one goalkeeper; two full-backs; two centre-backs; four midfielders; and two forwards.

TO ENTER BY POST Name your team on the entry form, left, in no more than 16 characters. Enter the correct three-digit player codes from the list, right, followed by the players' names. Enter the first three characters of each player's team under the heading CLUB, ie, LEE for Leeds. Also enter the value of each player shown on the list right. Add up the values of the 11 players in your team and make sure the total does not exceed £50m. Send your entry to the address shown, with a cheque/PO for £2.50 (£10 sterling outside UK or RoI) or your credit-card details. You will get confirmation of your team and your personal identity number (PIN) on receipt of your entry form. Readers under 18 should seek parental permission before entering. They must state their date of birth and indicate if they wish to enter our Youth League.

LUCKY DIP If you would like us to select a team at random for you, please tick the Lucky Dip box on the entry form. Postal entries only.

TO ENTER BY PHONE Call **0640 67 88 99** (+44 870 901 4209 outside the UK) using a touch-tone (DTMF) phone and when prompted tap in your 11 three-digit player codes. You will be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters). You will then be given a 10-digit PIN, make sure you write this down and keep it safe to be able to check your team's progress and make transfers. Calls last about seven minutes. 0640 calls are 60p per minute. Calls from outside the UK are charged at national rates. Calls from payphones cost approximately double.



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THE TIMES MAIN FANTASY LEAGUE ENTRY FORM

Submit your entry as soon as possible to maximise your point-scoring opportunities

FANTASY TEAM NAME (up to 16 characters) ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

LUCKY DIP If you wish to have your team selected by us at random, tick box ☐

CODE	GOALKEEPER NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
☐☐☐		☐☐☐	£ m
CODE	**FULL-BACK NAME**	**CLUB**	**VALUE**
☐☐☐		☐☐☐	£ m
CODE	**FULL-BACK NAME**	**CLUB**	**VALUE**
☐☐☐		☐☐☐	£ m
CODE	**CENTRE-BACK NAME**	**CLUB**	**VALUE**
☐☐☐		☐☐☐	£ m
CODE	**CENTRE-BACK NAME**	**CLUB**	**VALUE**
☐☐☐		☐☐☐	£ m
CODE	**MIDFIELDER NAME**	**CLUB**	**VALUE**
☐☐☐		☐☐☐	£ m
CODE	**MIDFIELDER NAME**	**CLUB**	**VALUE**
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CODE	**MIDFIELDER NAME**	**CLUB**	**VALUE**
☐☐☐		☐☐☐	£ m
CODE	**MIDFIELDER NAME**	**CLUB**	**VALUE**
☐☐☐		☐☐☐	£ m
CODE	**FORWARD NAME**	**CLUB**	**VALUE**
☐☐☐		☐☐☐	£ m
CODE	**FORWARD NAME**	**CLUB**	**VALUE**
☐☐☐		☐☐☐	£ m

MAXIMUM OF ONE PLAYER PER PREMIERSHIP TEAM — TOTAL VALUE (MAX £50m) £

I also wish to enter the Youth League (please tick) ☐

I was under 18 on August 15, 1998. Date of birth ☐☐ ☐☐ ☐☐

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0640 calls cost 60p per minute (ex UK numbers charge at national rates)

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HELPLINE

for any queries

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CHOOSE YOUR PLAYERS FROM HERE

Columns show: code, name, club, weekly points, total points, valuation(m).

GOALKEEPERS

102	D Seaman	ARS	3	25	3.7
146	A Manninger	ARS	0	12	3.4
139	M Bosnich	AST	0	12	3.2
140	M Oakes	AST	-2	2	2.9
144	A Rachel	AST	0	-1	2.6
108	J Filan	BLA	0	-2	2.8
126	A Fettis	BLA	0	6	2.5
127	T Flowers	BLA	0	-3	3.1
104	S Ilic	CHA	0	-11	2.3
105	M Salmon	CHA	0	0	2.2
106	A Petterson	CHA	0	-1	2.2
134	S Royce	CHA	0	-1	2.2
137	D Kharine	CHE	0	0	2.9
138	E De Goey	CHE	3	26	3.2
107	S Ogrizovic	COV	0	-1	2.4
117	M Hedman	COV	3	0	2.6
103	R Hoult	DER	0	6	2.3
153	M Poom	DER	0	9	2.5
112	P Gerrard	EVE	0	0	2.4
114	S Simonsen	EVE	0	0	2.7
118	T Myhre	EVE	-1	17	2.6
113	N Martyn	LEE	0	11	3.1
115	M Beeney	LEE	0	0	2.8
125	P Robinson	LEE	0	4	2.7
123	K Keller	LEI	-1	9	2.9
124	P Arphexad	LEI	0	0	2.6
122	B Friedel	LIV	0	-1	3.3
131	D James	LIV	0	7	3.3
116	P Schmeichel	MAN	3	11	4.0
121	R Van Der Gouw	MAN	0	3	3.5
109	M Schwarzer	MID	-2	11	2.7
110	B Roberts	MID	0	0	2.4
111	M Beresford	MID	0	-3	2.5
141	S Given	NEW	3	11	3.0
142	L Perez	NEW	0	0	2.7
143	S Harper	NEW	0	2	2.5
119	D Beasant	NOT	-7	-21	2.7
120	M Crossley	NOT	0	0	2.6
136	K Pressman	SHE	0	7	2.5
149	M Clarke	SHE	0	0	2.2
150	P Srnicek	SHE	3	9	2.3
147	N Moss	SOU	0	-2	2.2
148	P Jones	SOU	0	-7	2.4
128	I Walker	TOT	3	7	2.8
154	H Segers	TOT	0	0	2.4
155	E Baardsen	TOT	0	3	2.6
129	C Forrest	WES	0	0	2.5
130	S Hislop	WES	-3	0	2.7
132	N Sullivan	WIM	0	-1	2.5
135	P Heald	WIM	0	0	2.3

FULL BACKS

203	R Garde	ARS	0	11	3.5
204	L Dixon	ARS	3	35	4.1
205	N Winterburn	ARS	3	28	4.2
260	D Grondin	ARS	0	3	3.4
261	N Vivas	ARS	0	6	3.7
209	A Wright	AST	-2	15	3.7
211	G Croft	BLA	0	0	3.2
248	C Davidson	BLA	0	10	3.1
262	J Kenna	BLA	0	1	3.5
221	C Powell	CHA	0	-7	2.7
240	D Mills	CHA	0	1	2.8
241	M Bowen	CHA	0	0	2.7
242	S Brown	CHA	0	-5	2.5
243	A Barness	CHA	0	-1	2.5
210	A Ferrer	CHE	0	20	3.7
212	G Le Saux	CHE	3	15	4.0
215	C Babayaro	CHE	3	32	3.5
216	F Sinclair	CHE	-1	10	3.3
217	M Hall	COV	0	0	2.7
219	R Nilsson	COV	3	7	2.9
231	D Burrows	COV	0	-5	2.9
247	I Brightwell	COV	0	0	2.8
267	M Edworthy	COV	0	-1	2.9
220	R Kozluk	DER	0	0	2.6
223	S Schnoor	DER	0	18	2.8
287	S Elliott	DER	0	1	2.6
295	T Dorigo	DER	0	14	2.8
249	J O'Kane	EVE	0	0	2.9
256	T Thomas	EVE	0	0	2.7
258	M Ball	EVE	-1	32	2.8
271	A Cleland	EVE	0	20	2.9
272	T Phelan	EVE	0	0	2.8
286	M Ward	EVE	-1	-3	3.0
802	A Farley	EVE	-1	-1	2.8
214	D Granville	LEE	0	5	3.5
224	I Harte	LEE	0	21	3.4
225	D Robertson	LEE	0	0	3.3
226	G Kelly	LEE	0	0	3.9
227	L Sharpe	LEE	0	0	3.6
235	R Ullathorne	LEI	-1	13	3.0
237	R Savage	LEI	0	3	3.3
238	S Guppy	LEI	-1	27	3.6
228	J McAteer	LIV	0	2	4.2
229	S Harkness	LIV	0	1	3.8
230	R Jones	LIV	0	0	3.6
232	S Bjornebye	LIV	2	9	3.8
250	V Heggem	LIV	3	15	3.9
236	D Irwin	MAN	3	22	4.3
283	J Curtis	MAN	0	-1	3.5
284	P Neville	MAN	0	7	4.3
285	G Neville	MAN	5	17	4.5
294	W Brown	MAN	0	2	3.6
252	C Fleming	MID	0	9	3.0
253	V Kinder	MID	0	3	3.0
254	C Harrison	MID	0	0	2.8
255	D Gordon	MID	-2	22	3.2
259	G Lombardi	MID	0	0	2.9
266	R Stockdale	MID	0	8	2.8
244	N Solano	NEW	6	24	3.3
246	A Griffin	NEW	3	2	3.2
273	S Watson	NEW	-2	11	3.4
274	W Barton	NEW	3	10	3.4
276	L Charvet	NEW	3	11	3.3
280	C Serrant	NEW	0	-1	3.2
281	A Pistone	NEW	0	-3	3.5
298	D Domi	NEW	0	-1	3.3
290	D Lyttle	NOT	0	-5	2.9
291	A Rogers	NOT	-4	-7	3.0
292	T Bonalair	NOT	0	-6	3.1
293	M Louis-Jean	NOT	0	-2	2.7
801	S Stensaas	NOT	0	3	2.7
202	E Barrett	SHE	0	-1	2.8
268	A Hinchcliffe	SHE	3	25	3.2
269	J Cobian	SHE	0	2	2.8
279	I Nolan	SHE	0	0	2.8
289	L Briscoe	SHE	0	6	2.8
239	J Beresford	SOU	0	0	2.8
263	J Dodd	SOU	0	1	2.8
288	P Warner	SOU	0	-4	2.5
297	P Colleter	SOU	0	-1	2.6
251	C Wilson	TOT	0	0	3.0
264	S Carr	TOT	3	16	3.1
265	P Tramezzani	TOT	0	-2	3.2
270	J Edinburgh	TOT	0	8	2.9
296	M Taricco	TOT	3	3	3.3
206	S Potts	WES	0	-1	3.0
208	T Breacker	WES	-1	2	2.9
233	S Lazaridis	WES	0	0	3.2
234	A Impey	WES	0	11	3.1
299	S Minto	WES	-3	-3	3.1
275	D Jupp	WIM	0	-2	2.8
277	B Thatcher	WIM	0	5	2.9
278	A Kimble	WIM	0	4	2.9
282	K Cunningham	WIM	0	1	3.0

CENTRE BACKS

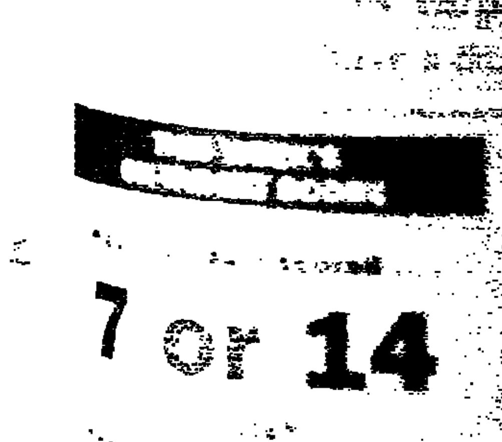
305	S Bould	ARS	0	12	3.8
307	T Adams	ARS	3	24	4.4
322	M Keown	ARS	5	42	4.1
337	G Grimandi	ARS	0	5	3.6
347	M Upson	ARS	0	1	3.4
301	U Ehiogu	AST	0	24	3.7
303	G Southgate	AST	-2	16	3.6
304	R Scimeca	AST	-2	6	3.3
329	G Barry	AST	0	11	3.1
353	S Perez	BLA	0	2	3.3
354	D Peacock	BLA	0	1	3.3
355	S Henchoz	BLA	0	0	3.4
374	M Broomes	BLA	0	3	2.8
308	R Rufus	CHA	0	-7	2.7
309	E Youds	CHA	0	-4	2.6
356	B Lambourde	CHE	0	6	3.4
365	M Desailly	CHE	3	19	3.8
366	M Duberry	CHE	0	15	3.5
370	A Myers	CHE	0	0	3.3
381	F Leboeuf	CHE	3	35	4.2
357	G Breen	COV	3	0	3.0
384	P Williams	COV	1	4	2.9
387	R Shaw	COV	3	4	2.8
388	L Daish	COV	0	0	2.8
903	M Konjic	COV	0	0	2.7
311	J Laursen	DER	0	13	2.9
312	I Stimac	DER	0	6	3.0
313	R Delap	DER	0	15	2.7
314	HA Carbonari	DER	0	20	3.1
326	C Daily	DER	0	-1	3.0
306	S Bilic	EVE	0	2	3.1
323	D Unsworth	EVE	1	20	3.1
324	D Watson	EVE	-1	15	2.9
325	C Tiler	EVE	0	1	3.0
327	C Short	EVE	0	7	2.9
328	M Materazzi	EVE	0	9	3.0
348	R Dunne	EVE	-1	11	2.7
330	L Radebe	LEE	0	15	3.5
331	M Hiden	LEE	0	14	3.4
332	J Woodgate	LEE	0	7	3.2
390	D Wetherall	LEE	0	2	3.6
398	R Molenaar	LEE	0	20	3.4
334	G Taggart	LEI	0	3	3.2
335	P Kaamark	LEI	0	-3	3.3
336	S Walsh	LEI	0	14	3.3
338	M Elliott	LEI	-1	24	3.9
389	S Prior	LEI	0	19	3.1
302	S Staunton	LIV	0	6	4.1
320	P Babb	LIV	0	6	3.7
375	D Matteo	LIV	1	3	3.6
376	F Kippe	LIV	0	0	3.4
399	BT Kvarme	LIV	0	0	3.5
902	R Song	LIV	0	0	3.8
321	H Berg	MAN	0	6	3.9
388	D May	MAN	0	0	3.9
382	J Stam	MAN	5	18	4.5
383	R Johnsen	MAN	3	17	4.1
339	G Pallister	MID	-2	10	3.2
343	G Festa	MID	-2	9	3.1
344	S Vickers	MID	-2	5	3.0
340	S Pearce	NEW	0	3	3.2
341	S Howey	NEW	3	2	3.3
342	N Dabizas	NEW	0	11	3.4
345	A Hughes	NEW	0	-3	3.0
361	P Albert	NEW	0	4	3.5
349	C Edwards	NOT	0	-1	2.6
350	C Cooper	NOT	0	9	3.2
351	S Chettle	NOT	0	-11	3.0
352	JO Hjelde	NOT	-7	-17	2.9
371	J Mattsson	NOT	-5	-8	2.8
901	C Doig	NOT	0	-3	2.6
358	P Atherton	SHE	3	21	2.9
359	G Sedloski	SHE	0	0	2.7
360	D Walker	SHE	3	16	2.8
362	D Stefanovic	SHE	0	2	2.7
364	J Newsome	SHE	0	-1	2.8
317	K Monkou	SOU	0	-2	2.7
385	F Benali	SOU	0	-4	2.7
386	R Dryden	SOU	0	3	2.5
391	C Lundekvam	SOU	0	-5	2.6
394	S Marshall	SOU	0	-5	2.7
395	S Hiley	SOU	0	-9	2.5
397	C Monk	SOU	0	-6	2.5
346	C Calderwood	TOT	0	11	3.1
373	J Scales	TOT	0	6	3.0
377	L Young	TOT	3	3	2.7
378	S Campbell	TOT	3	27	3.3
396	R Vega	TOT	0	9	3.4
315	J Dicks	WES	-3	3	3.3
319	I Pearce	WES	-3	1	3.1
363	R Hall	WES	0	0	2.8
367	J Margas	WES	0	-6	3.2
369	N Ruddock	WES	0	3	3.0
393	R Ferdinand	WES	-3	8	3.2
372	C Perry	WIM	0	-1	3.1
390	B McAllister	WIM	0	0	2.8
392	D Blackwell	WIM	0	-1	2.9

MIDFIELDERS

405	E Petit	ARS	0	8	4.4
406	M Overmars	ARS	5	19	6.6
416	R Parlour	ARS	5	11	4.0
420	P Vieira	ARS	2	5	4.1
424	F Ljungberg	ARS	0	3	5.5
425	S Hughes	ARS	0	7	3.5
407	M Draper	AST	0	0	3.7
409	S Grayson	AST	0	0	3.3
410	A Thompson	AST	0	4	4.5
411	F Ferraresi	AST	0	0	3.6
413	L Hendrie	AST	0	18	3.7
535	I Taylor	AST	0	11	3.8
415	B McKinlay	BLA	0	0	3.2
417	J Wilcox	BLA	0	4	4.0
419	D Duff	BLA	0	4	4.2
421	J Corbett	BLA	0	0	3.3
422	T Sherwood	BLA	0	11	4.1
423	D Johnson	BLA	0	7	3.1
426	[illegible]	BLA	0	0	3.3
427	D Marcolin	BLA	0	3	3.6
428	D Dunn	BLA	5	7	3.1
575	G Flitcroft	BLA	0	10	3.3
499	S Parker	CHA	0	2	3.0
501	K Jones	CHA	0	2	3.1
502	M Kinsella	CHA	0	8	3.5
504	M Holmes	CHA	0	0	3.2
505	S Newton	CHA	0	2	3.3
506	J Robinson	CHA	0	4	3.2
507	N Redfearn	CHA	0	6	4.1
508	P Mortimer	CHA	0	5	3.4
401	M Nicholls	CHE	0	0	3.3
404	P Hughes	CHE	0	0	3.1
429	J Morris	CHE	0	2	3.2
430	R Di Matteo	CHE	0	11	4.4
433	B Goldbaek	CHE	0	2	3.9
434	D Petrescu	CHE	0	12	4.3
435	E Newton	CHE	0	0	3.1
437	G Poyet	CHE	0	25	4.9
439	D Wise	CHE	0	6	3.8
465	G McAllister	COV	0	5	3.9
584	L Delorge	COV	0	0	3.5
588	B Quinn	COV	0	2	3.2
589	P Hall	COV	0	0	3.8
590	P Telfer	COV	0	3	3.5
591	N Whelan	COV	0	20	4.4
592	TE Soltvedt	COV	0	7	3.4
593	W Boland	COV	0	0	3.0
594	G Boateng	COV	0	7	3.3
595	P Clement	COV	0	2	3.5
596	G Strachan	COV	0	0	3.1
598	S Shilton	COV	0	0	3.0
599	S Froggatt	COV	0	13	3.7
440	D Powell	DER	0	4	3.2
442	S Eranio	DER	0	0	3.8
443	L Carsley	DER	0	5	3.1
444	F Baiano	DER	0	3	5.2
445	K Harper	DER	0	5	3.7
446	J Hunt	DER	0	3	3.4
479	L Bohinen	DER	0	2	3.6
403	G Farrelly	EVE	0	0	3.2
414	T Grant	EVE	0	0	3.1
418	D Williamson	EVE	0	0	3.2
447	J Oster	EVE	0	0	3.4
448	N Barmby	EVE	3	5	4.8
449	O Dacourt	EVE	0	0	3.8
450	J Collins	EVE	0	3	4.6
570	D Hutchison	EVE	0	6	4.0
458	W Korsten	LEE	0	0	3.5
459	H Kewell	LEE	0	26	4.4
466	L Bowyer	LEE	0	20	3.9
480	AI Haaland	LEE	0	0	3.6
481	B Ribeiro	LEE	0	3	3.8
482	G Halle	LEE	0	6	3.3
522	D Hopkin	LEE	0	12	3.7
532	S McPhail	LEE	0	4	3.1
452	N Lennon	LEI	0	4	3.5
453	S Campbell	LEI	0	0	3.1
454	G Parker	LEI	0	0	3.6
460	M Izzet	LEI	0	11	3.8
565	T Zagorakis	LEI	0	7	3.4
412	J Carragher	LIV	0	8	3.3
467	J Redknapp	LIV	0	20	4.2
468	S McManaman	LIV	0	10	5.5
469	P Berger	LIV	0	20	4.4
470	D Thompson	LIV	0	3	3.2
472	S Gerrard	LIV	0	0	3.1
475	JM Ferri	LIV	0	0	3.9
487	D Murphy	LIV	0	0	3.7
490	P Ince	LIV	3	15	4.5
529	O Leonhardsen	LIV	0	0	4.3
483	J Blomqvist	MAN	0	9	5.0
484	N Butt	MAN	2	14	4.1
485	R Giggs	MAN	0	12	5.6
486	P Scholes	MAN	6	31	5.5
491	J Cruyff	MAN	0	8	3.8
492	D Beckham	MAN	2	25	5.9
509	R Keane	MAN	0	3	4.4
510	N Maddison	MID	0	0	3.1
511	A Townsend	MID	0	7	3.6
512	R Mustoe	MID	0	5	3.4
514	P Gascoigne	MID	0	15	4.5
515	P Merson	MID	0	17	4.7
516	A Moore	MID	0	0	3.5
517	P Stamp	MID	3	6	3.4
533	M Summerbell	MID	0	0	3.0
461	G Georgiadis	NEW	0	0	3.9
462	D Batty	NEW	0	0	3.7
463	S Glass	NEW	0	17	3.5
464	G Speed	NEW	0	3	4.3
473	J Barnes	NEW	0	0	3.6
488	P Dalglish	NEW	0	3	3.8
489	K Gillespie	NEW	0	5	4.3
493	G Brady	NEW	0	0	3.3
494	D Hamilton	NEW	0	0	3.3
495	T Ketsbaia	NEW	2	15	3.8
496	R Lee	NEW	0	2	4.2
497	D Hamann	NEW	0	0	3.9
518	N Quashie	NOT	0	2	3.8
519	G Hodges	NOT	0	0	3.3
520	C Bart-Williams	NOT	0	5	3.6
521	S Gemmill	NOT	0	2	3.5
524	G Thomas	NOT	0	0	3.5
525	A Johnson	NOT	0	2	3.7
526	S Stone	NOT	0	5	4.0
527	I Woan	NOT	0	0	3.8
528	C Armstrong	NOT	0	0	3.2
530	A Gray	NOT	0	0	3.4
545	H Porfirio	NOT	0	0	3.6
550	J Harkes	NOT	0	0	3.1
537	N Alexandersson	SHE	2	17	3.5
538	P Rudi	SHE	0	11	3.6
539	G Whittingham	SHE	0	0	3.7
546	S Oakes	SHE	0	0	3.0
547	W Jonk	SHE	3	10	4.3
548	J Magilton	SHE	0	0	3.1
549	D Sonner	SHE	0	2	3.2
582	B Carbone	SHE	3	26	4.7
587	E Thome	SHE	0	4	3.2
500	S Ripley	SOU	0	2	3.9
536	C Palmer	SOU	0	2	3.2
541	D Howells	SOU	0	3	3.2
542	M Le Tissier	SOU	0	21	6.0
543	W Bridge	SOU	0	0	3.0
544	K Gibbens	SOU	0	0	3.0
556	C Marsden	SOU	0	0	3.3
557	M Oakley	SOU	0	10	3.1
498	D Ginola	TOT	0	14	4.8
503	R Fox	TOT	0	8	4.1
523	A Sinton	TOT	0	0	3.4
551	S Clemence	TOT	0	0	3.2
552	S Freund	TOT	0	0	3.9
553	A Nielsen	TOT	0	13	3.7
554	J Dominguez	TOT	0	0	3.5
555	D Anderton	TOT	0	21	4.6
568	M Saib	TOT	0	0	3.6
436	J Moncur	WES	0	0	3.4
561	E Berkovic	WES	0	16	4.8
573	MV Foe	WES	0	0	3.6
574	J Cole	WES	0	0	3.5
576	T Sinclair	WES	0	12	5.1
577	S Lomas	WES	0	5	3.3
578	F Lampard	WES	0	14	3.7
579	M Keller	WES	0	8	3.9
471	M Kennedy	WIM	0	2	3.8
559	R Earle	WIM	0	14	4.1
560	A Roberts	WIM	0	8	3.3
563	N Ardley	WIM	0	0	3.4
580	M Hughes	WIM	0	11	3.5
585	C Ainsworth	WIM	0	0	3.8
586	C Hughes	WIM	0	0	3.3
587	P Fear	WIM	0	0	3.0

FORWARDS

601	L Boa Morte	ARS	0	0	5.4
602	N Anelka	ARS	3	32	8.0
606	D Bergkamp	ARS	3	29	9.1
617	N Kanu	ARS	0	0	7.7
623	C Wreh	ARS	0	0	5.8
624	K Diawara	ARS	0	0	6.4
645	D Yorke	AST	11	65	8.3
646	J Joachim	AST	3	28	6.2
651	D Vassell	AST	0	0	5.4
652	S Collymore	AST	0	7	8.0
647	C Sutton	BLA	2	13	8.4
648	N Blake	BLA	0	9	6.7
691	M Dahlin	BLA	0	4	6.4
692	A Ward	BLA	3	3	6.9
693	K Gallacher	BLA	0	9	7.5
695	M Jansen	BLA	0	3	6.4
696	K Davies	BLA	0	7	7.4
604	C Mendonca	CHA	0	11	6.5
605	M Bright	CHA	0	3	5.6
607	S Jones	CHA	0	5	5.0
608	A Hunt	CHA	0	17	5.5
618	M Pringle	CHA	0	3	5.2
636	PL Casiraghi	CHE	0	5	7.8
637	TA Flo	CHE	0	25	7.2
639	G Vialli	CHE	0	2	6.6
642	M Forssell	CHE	0	0	5.9
679	G Zola	CHE	3	36	7.4
680	D Huckerby	COV	0	23	7.2
683	D Dublin	COV	2	45	7.9
685	D Jackson	COV	0	0	6.3
686	J Aloisi	COV	0	7	6.4
612	D Sturridge	DER	0	22	6.6
625	D Burton	DER	6	15	5.3
694	P Wanchope	DER	4	26	6.8
696	M Christie	DER	0	0	5.0
628	D Cadamarteri	EVE	0	14	5.3
675	I Bakayoko	EVE	0	6	6.7
677	F Jeffers	EVE	2	2	5.1
702	D Ferguson	EVE	0	18	7.5
661	C Wijnhard	LEE	0	10	6.8
662	JF Hasselbaink	LEE	0	43	8.1
671	A Smith	LEE	0	15	5.1
621	S Wilson	LEI	0	0	5.0
622	E Heskey	LEI	0	19	6.8
626	T Cottee	LEI	0	14	6.4
656	A Gunnlaugsson	LEI	0	0	6.1
657	I Marshall	LEI	0	0	5.7
669	G Fenton	LEI	0	0	5.2
618	KH Riedle	LIV	0	17	7.7
619	S Dundee	LIV	0	0	7.0
620	R Fowler	LIV	4	37	9.4
690	M Owen	LIV	5	40	10.5
640	OG Solskjaer	MAN	12	30	8.1
641	A Cole	MAN	6	48	8.7
649	T Sheringham	MAN	0	0	7.5
609	B Deane	MID	0	17	6.5
611	H Ricard	MID	0	29	6.6
613	M Beck	MID	0	17	6.2
615	A Armstrong	MID	0	0	6.0
667	A Andersson	NEW	0	3	6.7
670	A Shearer	NEW	0	25	10.1
676	L Saha	NEW	0	0	6.2
627	M Harewood	NOT	0	5	5.1
629	N Shipperley	NOT	0	2	6.5
630	P Van Hooijdonk	NOT	0	14	7.8
634	JC Darcheville	NOT	2	5	6.1
635	D Freedman	NOT	0	18	6.3
659	R Humphreys	SHE	0	3	5.3
660	A Quinn	SHE	0	0	5.0
663	F Sanetti	SHE	0	0	5.9
664	A Booth	SHE	2	13	6.5
666	P Di Canio	SHE	0	6	7.1
638	M Hughes	SOU	0	2	6.5
665	D Hirst	SOU	0	0	6.1
703	E Ostenstad	SOU	0	24	6.9
704	J Beattie	SOU	0	12	5.2
706	S Basham	SOU	0	3	5.0
707	H Kachloul	SOU	0	12	5.1
650	C Armstrong	TOT	0	20	7.1
658	L Ferdinand	TOT	0	11	8.1
687	S Iversen	TOT	0	12	6.4
688	R Allen	TOT	0	0	5.2
603	I Wright	WES	0	24	7.8
614	J Hartson	WES	0	20	8.2
643	S Abou	WES	0	0	5.6
644	P Kitson	WES	0	9	6.3
672	C Leaburn	WIM	0	8	5.5
681	J Euell	WIM	0	26	5.4
700	M Gayle	WIM	0	33	5.8
701	E Ekoku	WIM	0	6	6.0
705	C Cort	WIM	0	3	5.3



Glory of Solskjaer's late quartet

The weekly £500 prize-winner did not even need Ole Gunnar's 12 points over the weekend — but his team-mate helped out

The headlines were predictable, and the headline-writers did not disappoint. There they all were: *Gunnar's a Stunnar*, *Top Gunnar*, and, least unexpected of all, *Olé, Olé, Olé, Olé* — culturally confusing where a Norwegian is concerned, maybe, but each "Olé" saluting one of the four goals scored by Ole Gunnar Solskjaer against Nottingham Forest on Saturday.

His contribution during only 20 minutes on the pitch rewrote the definition of the term "super-sub", but before Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, elected to bring the Norway international onto the field at the City Ground, Dwight Yorke, the man he replaced, was on course to be the *Times* Fantasy League's top points-scorer of the week, thanks to his brace against Forest and his winner against Derby County in midweek. But four goals, worth 12 points, in little over ten minutes, put Solskjaer on top.

Admittedly, the goals were scored against a tiring and punch-drunk Forest defence, surely one of the feeblest rearguards ever to have appeared in the Premiership, and at least two of them hardly stretched the capacities of the league's most prolific substitute. But they all count, in Fantasy League as in the real world.

Solskjaer's 32 goals in 42 matches for Molde attracted the attention of Ferguson, who signed a player who immediately caused as much consternation for commentators as defenders, especially when Barry Davies of the BBC came up with the idiosyncratic but, he claims, authentic, "Sol-shirer" pronunciation that he alone seems to favour.

The other appellation that has stuck is *"The baby-faced assassin"*, although whether you would really want to see *that* squinting at you out of a pram is debatable. Nevertheless, 15 goals in a season when he has started only six games is largely unanswerable.

Even so, it was Yorke's contribution that won the £500 weekly prize for Anthony Simpson, of Shanklin, Isle Of Wight. His team, Raffles' Gems (named after his dog) benefited from a total of 17 points from Yorke and Paul Scholes, two players from one of two teams Mr Simpson supports — the other being bottom-of-the-league Scarborough, from where he moved to the island some 20 years ago. As he said, "You couldn't get two teams further apart in league position."

News of the win came as a pleasant surprise to Mr Simpson, a chef, whose recipe for success has been short of an ingredient or two at times, although this week's matches have proved that it had the potential to be a tasty combination.

"Scholes, I thought, would be a regular after the way he played last season, but it hasn't worked out that way. Wanchope is always likely to score a few goals, but he's been injured." Wanchope did not manage a goal, but was credited with assists for both of Deon Burton's goals against Everton on Sunday.

The choice of Yorke was a simple one, especially when transfer talk linked the player with Old Trafford while the team was being selected, but even players who might have been regarded as liabilities at one time proved their worth last week.

Ian Walker, who has reclaimed his place at Tottenham, came up with a clean sheet to earn three more valuable points. "They (Tottenham) haven't had a real first-choice goalkeeper, so I thought he'd have a chance," Mr Simpson said. The restriction on the number of players per club that can be selected is an inconvenience to some, but Mr Simpson saw it as a challenge. "I like the idea," he said. "It makes it harder, but it gives you more to do. "Dwight Yorke going to United helped . . ."

NICK SZCZEPANIK



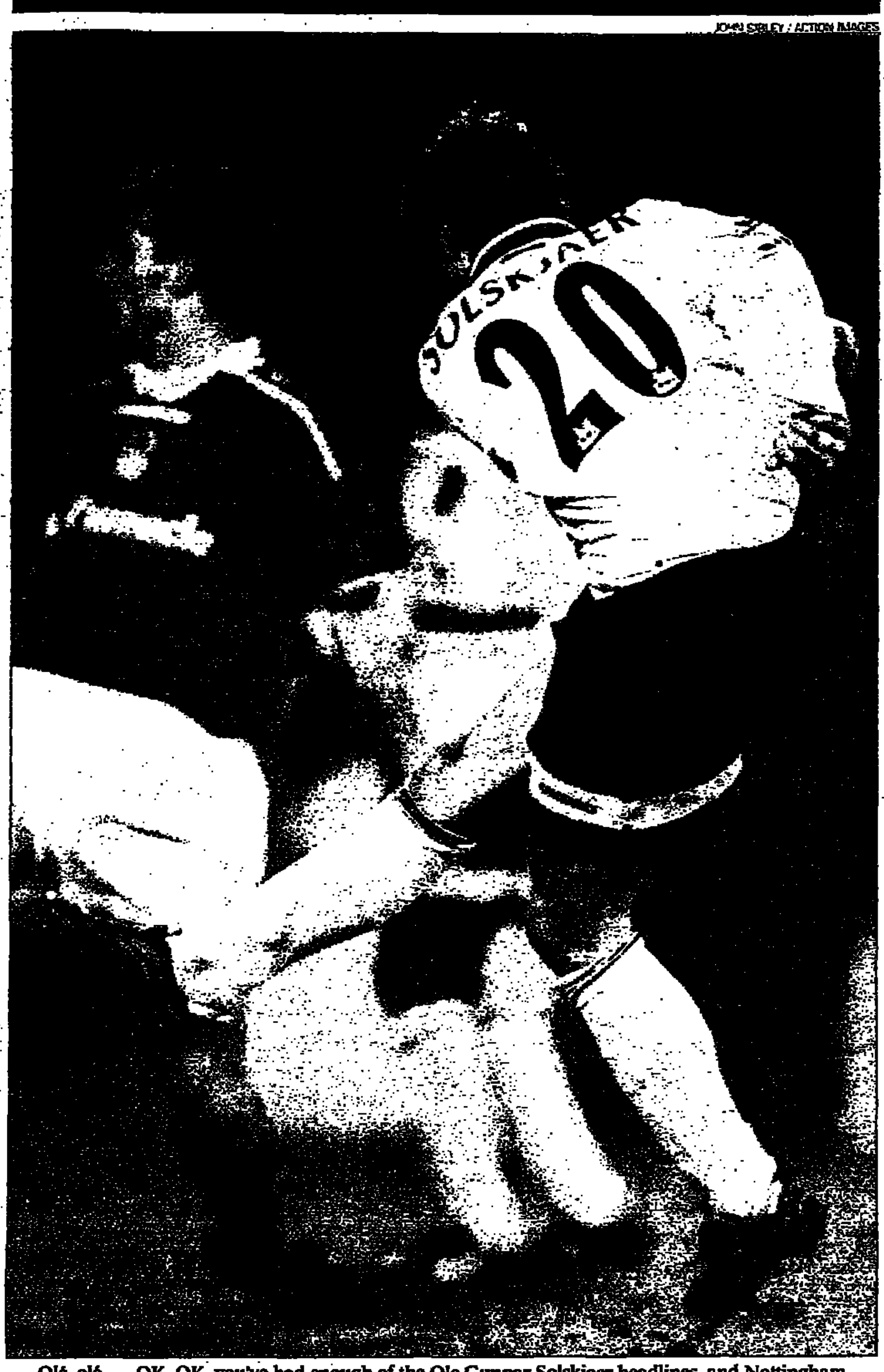
MONTHLY WINNER

Raffles' Gems

I Walker (TOT)	3
R Nilsson (COV)	3
G Le Saux (CHE)	3
K Monkou (SOU)	0
D Watson (EVE)	-1
D Hamann (NEW)	0
P Ince (LIV)	3
P Scholes (MAN)	6
M Overmars (ARS)	5
D Yorke (AST)	11
P Wanchope (DER)	4
Total points 37	

FANTASY PLAYER OF THE WEEK

JOHN SIBLEY / ACTION IMAGES



Olé, olé . . . OK, OK, you've had enough of the Ole Gunnar Solskjaer headlines, and Nottingham Forest will certainly have had enough of him. Just as well: after his four goals at the City Ground on Saturday, the chances of his visiting in a league game next season have become even more remote

FANTASY LEAGUE TOP 100

1	Phil Clarke	Shabadi United	293
2	Robert Little	Broken Arrow	287
3	James Kerr	Serious Squad	282
4	Mark Coles	Joe Public	280
5	Gordon Crutchley	Super Saddlers B	276
5	Sarabjot Kohli	Junglemen	276
5	Richard Deane	On The Wagon	276
5	John White	Fusegear	276
9	Peter Leathem	Spike Town	275
10	Robert Anderson	Robert's Rovers	274
10	David Mead	In The City	274
12	John Humphreys	Academicals	273
13	Tim Gardner	Harchester Who?	271
14	Jennifer Cockburn	Yeah Right!	270
14	John Lofthouse	Solid At The Bac	270
16	Phil Tusler	Pin-Ups 7	269
17	David Tilley	Tilley FC	268
17	David Wise	Walsall Reserves	268
17	Mike Truran	Tigger United	268
20	Michael Matejtschuk	Bandidos Darsene	267
21	David Young	Dave 10	266
21	David Edmondson	Edmo Utd Mington	266
21	Lucy Crosthwaite	I Hate Football	266
21	Mike Shipley	Minor Threat	266
21	Angela Whitfield	Westcountry Woo5	266
26	Andrew James Spencer	This Ones Mine	265
26	Mike Shipley	Minor Threat 16	265
26	Andy Luckhurst	Caroline B	265
29	Mark Gayler	Third Time Lucky	264
29	L Samuels	Spartak Mossley	264
31	Lennart Mars	The Jazz	263
31	Mike Shipley	Minus Threat 10	263
31	Phil Tusler	Peter 7	263
34	Pritesh Gadhia	Willesden Eleven	262
34	Carol Flint	The Baggage Boys	262
36	Brian Payne	Cosmopolitan I	261
36	Peter Coltman	Just A Bods Team	261
36	John Miner	Melodymaker	261
39	Allan Purdy	Als Bandits	260
39	Tom Lee	The Bears FC	260
39	Tony Fidler	Real Dataman	260
39	Jwalant Popat	Popat's Army	260
39	Michael Scaife	Alldoswash&go	260
39	Nigel Byrne	Nigels Team	260
45	Kevin Styles	Olivianewtonjohn	259
45	Jonathan Hayes	Special Brew	259
45	Robin Harrington	Chequers Champs	259
45	C Sharpe	Sunfish Stars	259
45	Jas Singh	Inter City 442	259
45	Stephen Trup	Winners	259
45	Glen Reynolds	Wb 20	259
45	Terry Bullen	El Tel's Revenge	259
45	Stephen Anthony	Anthill Mob FC	259
45	David Daley	The Daley X1	259
55	Alan Featherstone	Lartarsdipsyteam	258
55	John Mell	Melton United	258
55	Henry Cosgrove	Top Class Reject	258
55	Darren Sawyer	Finchleyallstars	258
55	Matthew O'Neil	The M Team	258
55	Scott Brett	Scotts Stars	258
55	Paul O'Neill	Four Four Two	258
55	Henrietta Ball	Henri & Goals UU	258
55	Nigel Kalb	Kalbs Kings 8	258
64	Ron Allport	Cyclones	257
64	Andrew Kavanagh	Super Snipers FC	257
64	Simon Gray	The Walker	257
64	David Swithenbank	Titus All Stars	257
64	Miles Lawson	Throw In Muses	257
64	Geraint Jones	Ponty Bluebirds	257
64	George Millington	Survivors 6	257
64	Dominic Quibell	Doms Demons	257
72	Paul Swain	Q B Oldboys	256
72	Joseph Barkley	Joren United	256
72	Philip Morton	Skill Vandi	256
72	Chris Wallis	Wallys Wonders 2	256
72	Jo Tinning-Clowes	The Future's Red	256
72	Nick Waterman	Watermen3	256
72	Neil Bradbrook	Chapeltown Elite	256
79	John Green	Chicken Chasers	255
79	Mark Scott	Class Of 98	255
79	Harry Birks	Who Needs Hayes?	255
79	Anil Nathan	Nathan Hotspurs	255
79	Sarosh Daruwala	Scorch	255
79	Charles Duncan	Allans Strollers	255
79	E Kelly	Maisie F C	255
79	Peter Donnelly	Goals 'R Us	255
79	Daisy Martin	Saxham Tuesdays	255
79	Robert Harding	Wishful Thinking	255
79	Rajiv Kothari	Millenniumbuggers	255
90	Chris Coles	Inter Radicchio	254
90	Phil Tusler	Pin-Ups	254
90	D B Fisher	Taking Candy	254
90	E Scaletta	Gatto Nero	254
90	Francis Murphy	Franco Di Milano	254
90	Steve Ongeri	Lokomotiv No Go	254
96	Jillian Rose	Eernies Fleas	253
96	Trevor Denton	Chelstrev 1	253
96	Colin Head	Headstart Gunard	253
96	Paul Woolman	Old Brightonians	253
96	Andrew Mottershead	Mottys Marvels	253

Plus ten others on 253 points

£1,000 richer for having the team's points spot on target

People are signing up new teams for ON-Target, where you match your points with the given score to have a chance to win a prize

Congratulations to Nick Patch of Grays in Essex, the main winner of ON-Target this week, who finds himself £1,000 richer thanks to last week's rollover. Fourteen other managers have also managed to win themselves excellent prizes.

Even if you do not have a Fantasy League team, you can enter this new game now — or enter a new one simply for ON-Target. All managers have the chance to win a share of £28,000 of new prizes. *The Times* has teamed up with EA Sports to offer you the chance to own the renowned *FIFA 99* game. Every week you have the chance to win:

- 1st Prize: £500 plus an EA Sports Pack
- 4 runners up: EA Sports Packs
- 10 additional runners up: Fifa 99 CD-Rom.

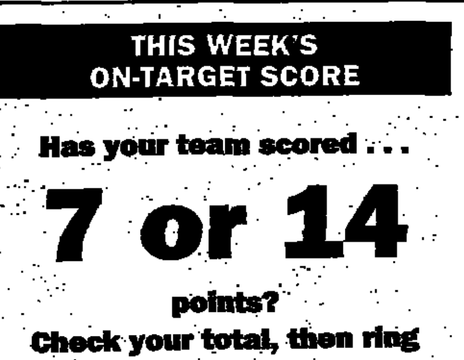
Each EA Sports Pack contains: FIFA '99 for the Playstation; FIFA '99 for the PC; EA Sports T-Shirt, key ring and mini football plus a record bag.

IF YOU already have a team in the main game, then you're ready to play ON-Target. Simply check your Fantasy League players' score each week and see if their total is the same as our ON-Target score shown here each Tuesday. If you have scored the exact target points, a quick call to our ON-Target winners' line (national rate call) will put you in the draw to win one of the 15 prizes.

The ON-Target score may be high or low. There could be more than one score (such as today). It could be a minus score. So it's worth checking your performance every week.

Just have your PIN number handy to call the winners line on:

0870 901 4270



If you don't have a team, or want to sign up another one, enter now by filling in the entry form. There are no limits to how many teams you enter. Not only could you win the ON-Target prizes, but you could win the main game weekly (£500) or monthly (£1,000) prizes.

HOW TO ENTER: Look up your players' weekly point scores opposite and add them up, or call the checkline 0640 625 102. If your total score for this week matches the ON-Target number(s), then call our claim line on **0870 901 4270** (calls, charged at national rate, should last about a minute). Claims must be made before midnight on Sunday night. The lines then close until the next game starts on Tuesday morning.

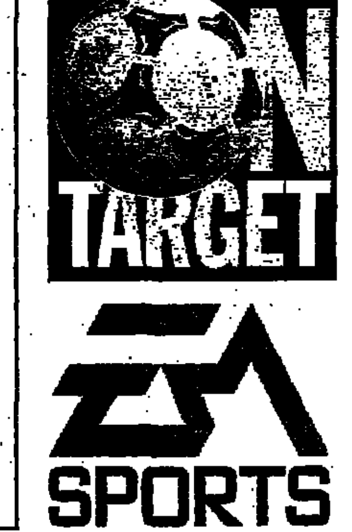
If you have scored the correct number of points AND called the claim line, you go into the draw. Just look in the paper on the following Tuesday to see if you have won.

Managers with the correct points who have *not* called the claim line will not be entered. Calls that are incomplete, inaudible or invalid will not be entered. All teams in the draw must conform to the main game rules.

Winners

This week's winners are: **Nick Patch** of Grays (£1,000 plus EA Sports Pack); **Edward Andrews** of Purley, **Gareth Robinson** of Wrexham, **Gordon Bruce** of Livingston and **Joanna Givens** of Salisbury (EA Sports Packs); **John Futre** of Port Sunlight **Alison Grovener** of Glossop, **Miles Pearson** of Colchester, **Edward Horner** of Carrickfergus, **Andrew Emes** of Market Harborough, **Eric Pritchard** of Shrewsbury, **Nick Arnold** of Disley, **Julie Wadsley** of Eastwood, **David Varley** of Otley and **Marlene Greenwood** of Harrogate (Fifa 99 CD-Roms).





FANTASY LEAGUE QUIZ



Every week, we test your football knowledge with our Fantasy Quiz. Last Tuesday we featured four Premier League players with presents to unwrap: Tim Flowers (Blackburn), Steve Harper (Newcastle), Darren Peacock (Blackburn) and Mart Poom (Derby) all celebrated birthdays on February 3.

What do these four hot Fantasy League properties have in common? The answer will appear in a fortnight.





CHECK YOUR SCORES
TELEPHONE 0640 62 51 02

YOUTH LEAGUE TOP TEN

1	Sarabjot Kohli	Junglemen	276
2	Robert Anderson	Robert's Rovers	274
3	Jwalant Popat	Popat's Army	260
4	Matthew O'Neil	The M Team	258
4	Henrietta Ball	Henri & Goals UU	258
6	David Swithenbank	Titus All Stars	257
7	Daisy Martin	Saxham Tuesdays	255
7	Robert Harding	Wishful Thinking	255
9	Craig Macaskill	No name	253
9	John Young	Noteamname	253



Marc Overmars: features in this week's winning team

Not dropped, only resting . . .

PERHAPS the most nerve-racking moment of the weekend for a manager in The Times Fantasy League comes just before the kick-off, in the form of team news. Knowing that you're down to ten men even before a ball is kicked because your star midfielder has been "rested" does nothing for the morale of the team.

Managers owning the likes of Beckham and Scholes will have heard this dreaded word several times over the past few weeks. It seems that being two of the top Fantasy League midfielders still does not guarantee you a starting place in Alex Ferguson's midfield. In fact, Scholes has started only 15 games so far, but even so finds himself top of the heap in terms of Fantasy League points scored. Similarly, super-sub Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has started just six Premiership games, but has accumulated 30 Fantasy League points — currently the tenth highest tally for a striker in the competition and even more than Dennis Bergkamp. Alex Ferguson has promised the Norwegian more starts in future, but managers with Yorke and Cole should not worry too much about their men making way. Next weekend's FA Cup match with Fulham will provide an excellent opportunity to parade the youngster before the Cole-Yorke partnership resumes for business as usual in the Premiership crunch match with reigning champions Arsenal a week tomorrow.

Manchester United defenders have also been victims of a rotational policy, with Gary Neville, Ronnie Johnsen and Denis Irwin all having stints on the sidelines to let Wes Brown, Henning Berg and Phil Neville have a run out. In fact, Chelsea's rotational strategy has been put in the shade by comparison.

In contrast, Arsenal's first-choice XI can be agreed on by all and sundry, thus ensuring that Fantasy League managers know exactly where they stand.

As European fixtures and the latter stages of domestic cup competitions loom on the horizon, you can be sure that the respective rotational strategies among the major Premiership contenders will continue, causing yet more infuriation to Fantasy League managers all over the nation.

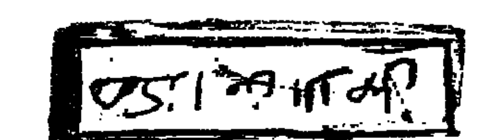
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Wes Brown: rotation benefit



هكذا في الأصل

NEWS

Leaders unite to honour Hussein

In death as in life, King Hussein of Jordan acted as a bridge-builder as his funeral brought together sworn enemies who united in paying homage to one of the great peacemakers of the 20th century.

The outcome of the open and secret exchanges between about 50 heads of state and government will only become clear in the coming weeks and months..........Pages 1-3

Tributes flow as Iris Murdoch dies

Tributes poured in last night for Iris Murdoch, who died yesterday afternoon after a long struggle against Alzheimer's disease. After entering a nursing home a fortnight ago, she had lost the will to eat and drink. Her husband, John Bayley, was at her side when she died. Dame Iris, 79, won the Booker Prize for *The Sea, The Sea*..........Pages 1, 5

EU spending row

Britain's cash-back arrangement from the Brussels budget came under concerted fire from all 14 other member states as ministers failed to clear ground on spending reforms..........Page 1

School privatised

The commercial arm of a specialist school in the West Midlands is poised to take over the management of a failing comprehensive 130 miles away..........Page 4

Jury flies to Belarus

Legal history will be made next week when a British judge and jury travel abroad to see the scene of alleged war crimes at Belarus, formerly the Soviet republic of Belorussia..........Page 6

Inspector in court

A police inspector and his publican friend had a captive audience for their interpretation of *The Full Monty*, but their fellow passengers on a flight were left angry and frightened by their drunken performance..........Page 7

TV debut for radio hit

After some hesitation and a not a little deviation, *Just A Minute*, the radio quiz, is to make its debut on BBC television..........Page 7

Carers given a break

The country's forgotten legions of carers are to receive £140 million from the Government to help them to take short breaks from their duties..........Page 8

Pin teacher jailed

A teacher who forced a 14-year-old boy to lie bare-chested on drawing pins after getting his homework wrong was jailed for six weeks..........Page 9

Lords team named

Two leading trade union figures, a former Tory minister and a bishop have been named as members of the royal commission which will decide the shape and functions of the second House of Parliament..........Page 10

Former PM on trial

Laurent Fabius, the former French Prime Minister, will today be tried for manslaughter for his role in the blood scandal that spread Aids to more than 4,000 people..........Page 11

Senators seek a deal

As closing arguments began in Bill Clinton's trial, Senators intensified their attempts to find agreement on a way of rebuking the President after his inevitable acquittal this week..........Page 12

Eritrea back in battle

Fighting between Ethiopian and Eritrean forces has spread to new fronts, with each side accusing the other of firing first.....Page 13

Mugabe arrests critics

Zimbabwean authorities moved swiftly in the wake of President Mugabe's threats to his critics, arresting three journalists and a newspaper owner..........Page 13

Anti-sleaze push ends fruity favours

Teachers who accept apples from pupils risk falling foul of tough anti-sleaze rules at East Renfrewshire Council in Scotland. The tradition is threatened by a code of conduct banning all employees from accepting gifts or hospitality, however small. Teachers' unions claim they represent "political correctness run riot" and are an insult to the profession..........Page 9

PAUL ROGERS



Nick Brown, the Minister for Agriculture, opens the 11th International Food and Drink Exhibition at Earls Court in London yesterday

BUSINESS

Output reductions: Manufacturing output fell 0.6 per cent in December, and by 1.3 per cent in the final quarter of last year, faring far worse than leaders in the City were expecting..........Page 25

Free PCs: A consortium of United States investors is giving away Compaq computers in a bid to encourage wider private use of the Internet..........Pages 25, 26

No contest: Ladbroke is unlikely to face a rival bidder in its quest to take over Stakis, the hotels group that yesterday recommended a cash-and-shares offer worth £1.16 billion..........Page 25

Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell 20.4 to 5834.9. The pound fell .57 cents to $1.6327 and fell .01p against the euro to 68.89p..........Page 28

SPORT

Football: The England caretaker manager Howard Wilkinson sought to begin a new era of success for the nation at his first training session..........Page 48

Tennis: Greg Rusedski scored an emphatic victory in the first round of the Dubai Open..........Page 46

Snooker: Stephen Hendry crashed to defeat by Maltese player Tony Drago in the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley..........Page 46

Motor racing: Scotsman David Coulthard's first spin in the new McLaren unveiled in Spain was a truncated affair..........Page 44

Cricket: England may feel they have passed muster if they can beat Australia in the final of the triangular tournament, which begins tomorrow in Sydney..........Page 42

ARTS

Parent trap: Kicking off a five-play season at the Hampstead Theatre is *Celaine*, a new work from Matt Parker with an original take on problem children..........Page 32

Concert quartet: On the South Bank, *Times* music critics review Daniel Barenboim at the piano, the LPO's *Roots — Classical Fusions day, and a tribute to the French* composer Gérard Grisey...Page 32

Room to enjoy: Influenced by Cubism but never attached to any art movement, the elusive painter Patrick Caulfield goes on show at the Hayward Gallery..........Page 33

Christopher's friends: The death of its founder, Christopher Gable, in October has not subdued Northern Ballet Theatre, as its new *Carmen* will prove..........Page 34

FEATURES

Blighted years: Mo Mowlam has spoken out about the trauma of growing up with an alcoholic. William Ayot reveals how he shared her anguish..........Page 14

What women want: Erica Jong tries to pinpoint exactly what makes an ideal mate..........Page 15

Date with destiny: As Valentine's Day looms, Grace Bradberry asks if the professional matchmaker can find you love..........Page 15

LAW

Open court: If the trial of the Lockerbie suspects is held in The Netherlands, shouldn't the authorities allow television coverage, in the interests of openness?..........Page 35

SUPPLEMENT

In the lead: What are the qualities needed for leadership into the next century, and who has them?

A 16-page liftout

THE PAPERS

For most of his reign King Hussein was an absolute monarch, but he was never a despot. He was alone among Arab leaders in the courting of public opinion, and unique among them in the depth of his love for his countrymen. The terrible public grief we have seen on the streets of Amman is eloquent proof that they believed him, and they returned his love in full measure.

The Jerusalem Post

RADIO & TV

Preview: Ken Stott stars as the Irish criminal Martin "The General" Cahill. *Vicious Circle* (BBC1, times vary) **Review:** Joe Joseph on the merits of relationships between mothers and sons..........Pages 46, 47

OPINION

Hussein's hour

That a diplomatic gathering of this size and rank should settle in such a small city as Amman is a tribute to King Hussein..........Page 17

A free school

In Labour's election manifesto, the Prime Minister stated that "what matters is what works". Many local authorities fail that test.....Page 17

Knock at the door

Mr Mugabe's overt dash to dictatorship reflects his increasingly desperate situation..........Page 17

COLUMNS

PETER RIDDELL

Reform of the Lords links many strands of constitutional reform. Don't expect any fireworks, but rather some cautious compromises to fill in the gaps of an already well worked out plan..........Page 10

MAX BELOFF

If one excludes the political violence, which was an integral part of Nazi-ism, there are still telling parallels between then and now. The similarities between Adolf Hitler and Tony Blair's path to power are hard to dismiss..........Page 16

MICHAEL GOVE

If this affair were an opera, it would have to be Don Giovanni. President Clinton may not, yet, have clocked up the one thousand and three lovers which the Don managed, but you can't fault him for effort..........Page 16

JAMES HEARTFIELD

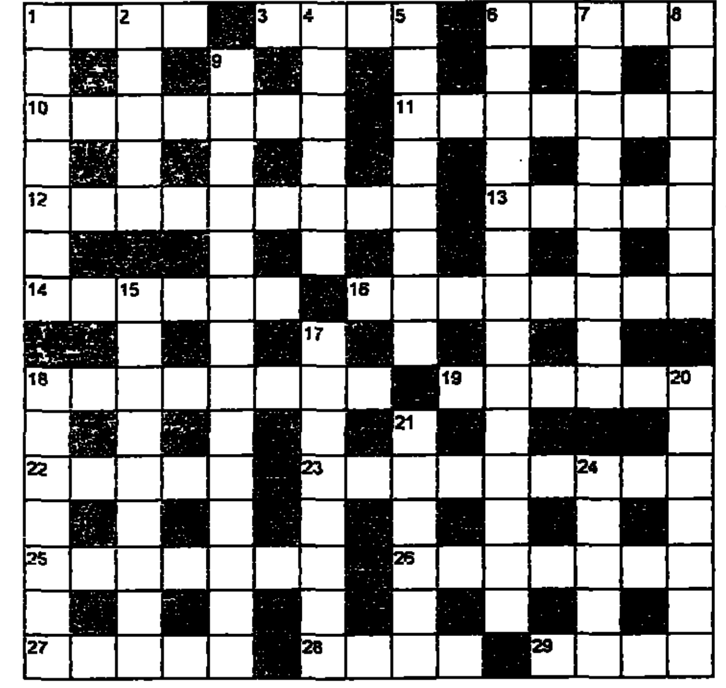
It is impossible to discount allegations of abuse made against teachers. According to some welfare professionals, it is wrong to assume that children can lie..........Page 16

OBITUARIES

Dame Iris Murdoch, novelist; **Robert Barr**, war correspondent and television writer..........Page 19

LETTERS

Home Office's threat to business; OUP ethos; the English identity; Hoddle; performance and pay; Pinochet; UN and East Timor; Aids vaccine; Territorial medals; Samaranch..........Page 17



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **HOMES**
Conversions to get excited about, and other People & Property news: ten-page supplement

■ **INTERFACE**
Digital dates and Net nannies. Should the Web be censored?

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,022

ACROSS
1 Operatic heroine repeating note (4).
3 Gin some knocked back (4).
6 Stint bound to include extra minutes (5).
10 Craftsman producing bits of gold incorporated in vessel (7).
11 Pardon a little woman going outside home (7).
12 All feet go dancing to this instrument? (9).
13 Record first part of wedding ceremony (5).
14 Some Mexican aperitif providing an appetiser (6).
16 Incorrectly calculate viscount's capital is much greater (8).
18 Red conspirator brought before lawyers (8).
19 Part of sentence judge put in to honour court (6).
22 Robber initially dropping a little money gets very angry (5).
23 Manipulation of man target for her? (9).
25 European in work unit retired, making a bomb (7).
26 Rider coming along with a will (7).
27 Spread bet on introductory odds (5).
28 Match sample (4).
29 Disturbance in prison (4).

DOWN
1 Evil man, fellow in charge (7).
2 Musical heroine having many an operatic solo (5).
4 Bank supporting artist, but not very often (6).
5 Fruit worker produced in flat area (8).
6 Progressive advertising media putting squeeze on their directors? (8-6).
7 Start a seat of learning (9).
8 Vote for workers, in part, to get remuneration (7).
9 Extraordinary ten-year trip covering most of the territory within the solar system (14).
15 Nothing about new opera composition is unique (9).
17 Most palatable wine imbibed during trial (8).
18 Shrinks from peal penetrating church at start of service (7).
20 Nominal inclusion of workers' group in misconceived trial (7).
21 Signs which might be kicked over (6).
24 A tax that's obsolete, of course (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 21,021

COMBO RIVERSIDE
H E R E I U N A
ANALGESIA MISER
R L A T D B T L
ARYAN FRUGALITY
B I U C G
AEROSOL TOWPATH
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D R E L B
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ODIUM ARROWHEAD
I O B N S E N R
CANTONESE RITZY

Times Two Crossword, page 48

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.28 am
Sun sets: 5.01 pm
Moon sets: 10 54 pm
Moon rises: 12.37 pm

London 5.01 pm to 7.26 am
Bristol 5.12 pm to 7 36 am
Edinburgh 5.06 pm to 7.52 am
Manchester 5.05 pm to 7.41 am
Penzance 5.27 pm to 7 44 am



Books for Schools token inside

FORECAST

☐ **General:** sunny but very cold, with early and late frosts. Hail and snow showers in most places. Northern Scotland bitterly cold with frequent heavy snow showers

☐ **London, SE England:** bitterly cold but sunny. Small risk of wintry showers. Northwesterly wind. Max 4C (39F)

☐ **NE & E England, E Anglia:** very cold with hail and snow showers, especially near coast, and some sunshine. Fresh northwesterly wind. Max 3C (37F)

☐ **Central England, Midlands, Channel Islands:** mostly dry with good sunny spells but very cold and risk of wintry showers. Moderate to fresh northwesterly wind. Max 5C (41F)

☐ **NW & SW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man:** very cold and breezy. Coastal wintry showers and a few sunny spells. Fresh northwesterly wind. Max 5C (41F)

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow:** very cold but generally dry. Good sunny breaks, small risk of snow showers. Fresh northwesterly wind. Max 3C (37F)

☐ **Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NW & NE Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland:** bitterly cold, especially in chill wind. Short sunny spells, frequent snow showers. Strong northwesterly wind. Max 1C (34F)

☐ **Northern Ireland:** some sunshine, risk of snow showers. Fresh northwesterly wind. Max 3C (37F)

☐ **Irish Republic:** cold with sunny intervals. Occasional snow showers in north. Brisk northwesterly wind. Max 5C (41F)

☐ **Outlook:** remaining very cold. Wintry showers in many places, sunny inland

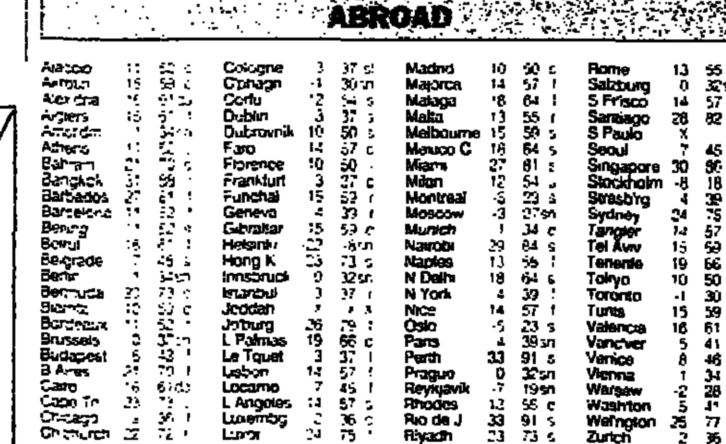
AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 6 pm: b=bright, c=cloud, d=drizzle, ds=dust storm, du=dull, f=fair, fg=fog, g=gales, h=hail, r=rain, sh=shower, sl=sleet, s=sun, t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Aberdeen	5.4	0.47	0	32	sn	Kinloss	2.0	0.01	0	32	sn
Anglesey	0.7	0.25	5	41	r	Leeds	2.6	0.01	3	37	b
Aspatria	5.6	0.01	3	37	s	Lerwick	2.1	0.34	0	32	sn
Aviemore	2.2	0.01	-1	30	sn	Leuchars	7.2	-	3	37	s
Belfast	2.4	0.06	3	37	sl	Littlehampton	0.1	0.11	3	37	r
Birmingham	-	0.04	2	36	sn	London	-	0.01	5	41	sl
Bognor R	-	0.13	3	37	r	Lowestoft	1.8	0.04	1	34	b
Bournemouth	-	0.17	4	39	sl	Manchester	0.9	0.04	3	37	sn
Bristol	-	0.24	3	37	sn	Margate	0.6	-	4	39	du
Buxton	-	0.05	0	32	b	Morecambe	5.9	0.02	4	39	s
Cardiff	-	0.28	3	37	sl	Newcastle	8.5	-	3	37	s
Clacton	0.6	-	3	37	c	Newquay	-	0.31	9	48	r
Cleethorpes	0.2	0.01	3	37	b	Norwich	1.2	0.01	2	36	du
Colwyn Bay	-	0.21	3	37	r	Oxford	-	0.02	2	36	sn
Cromer	2.1	0.04	2	36	b	Penzance	-	0.64	11	52	r
Eastbourne	-	0.17	4	39	sl	Poole	-	0.21	4	39	r
Edinburgh	4.3	-	3	37	b	Prestatyn	0.4	0.58	3	37	sn
Eskdalemuir	7.7	-	1	34	s	Ross on Wye	-	0.12	3	37	sl
Exmouth	-	0.51	5	41	sl	Saunton Sands	0.7	0.31	5	41	du
Fishguard	-	0.29	3	37	sn	Scarborough	5.1	0.01	2	36	s
Folkestone	-	0.04	3	37	sn	Shrewsbury	-	0.04	2	36	sn
Glasgow	3.6	-	3	37	s	Skegness	-	-	2	36	c
Hastings	-	0.12	3	37	sl	Southend	0.3	-	3	37	b
Hayling I.	-	0.14	3	37	sn	Southport	X	0.02	3	37	d
Herne Bay	1.9	-	5	41	c	Stornoway	6.2	0.10	1	34	h
Hove	X	0.02	3	37	sl	Swanage		0.20	5	41	r
Hunstanton	-	-	2	36	c	Teignmouth	-	0.55	6	43	sh
Isle of Man	1.5	0.02	4	39	s	Tenby	-	0.48	5	41	r
Isle of Wight	X	0.24	4	39	r	Tiree	6.4	0.04	3	37	sn
Jersey	-	0.41	10	50	h	Torquay	-	0.36	7	45	r

Yesterday: highest day temp: Culdrose, Cornwall, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Loch Glascarnoch, Highland, -3C (27F); highest rainfall: St Mary's, Scilly 0.82ins; highest sunshine: Newcastle upon Tyne, 8.5hrs

ABROAD



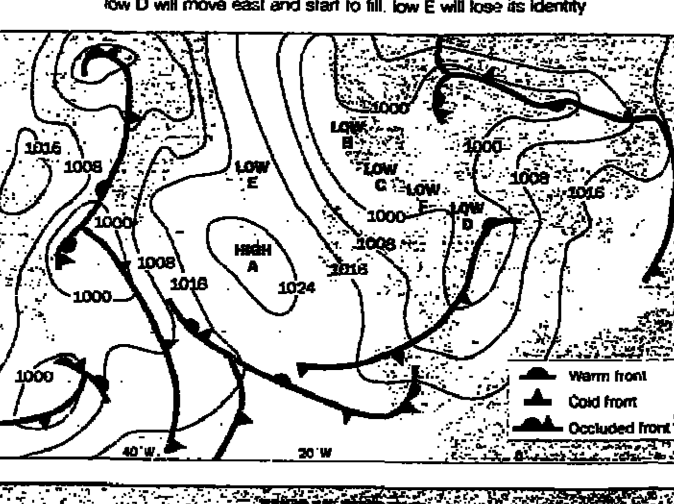
Ajaccio	11	52	c	Cologne	3	37	sl	Madrid	10	50	c	Rome	13	55	f
Akrotiri	15	59	c	C'phagn	-1	30	sn	Majorca	14	57	f	Salzburg	0	32	sn
Alex'dria	16	61	[illegible]	Corfu	12	54	s	Malaga	18	64	f	S Frisco	14	57	r
Algiers	15	59	[illegible]	Dublin	3	37	s	Malta	13	55	r	Santiago	28	82	s
Am'dam	1	34	[illegible]	Dubrovnik	10	50	s	Melbourne	15	59	s	S Paulo	X		
Athens	11	52	[illegible]	Faro	14	57	c	Mexico C	18	64	s	Seoul	7	45	s
Bahrain	21	70	s	Florence	10	50	[illegible]	Miami	27	81	s	Singapore	30	86	t
Bangkok	31	88	[illegible]	Frankfurt	3	37	c	Milan	12	54	[illegible]	Stockholm	-8	18	s
Barbados	27	81	[illegible]	Funchal	15	59	r	Montreal	-5	23	s	Strasb'rg	4	39	c
Barcelona	11	52	[illegible]	Geneva	4	39	r	Moscow	-3	27	sn	Sydney	24	75	s
Beijing	[illegible]	52	[illegible]	Gibraltar	15	59	c	Munich	1	34	c	Tangier	14	57	f
Beirut	16	61	[illegible]	Helsinki	-22	-8	sn	Nairobi	29	84	s	Tel Aviv	15	59	r
Belgrade	7	45	s	Hong K	23	73	s	Naples	13	55	f	Tenerife	19	66	c
Berlin	1	34	sn	Innsbruck	0	32	sn	N Delhi	18	64	s	Tokyo	10	50	s
Bermuda	23	73	[illegible]	Istanbul	3	37	r	N York	4	39	f	Toronto	-1	30	s
Biarritz	10	50	c	Jeddah	X			Nice	14	57	f	Tunis	15	59	c
Bordeaux	11	52	[illegible]	Jo'burg	26	79	[illegible]	Oslo	-5	23	s	Valencia	16	61	s
Brussels	3	37	sn	L Palmas	19	66	c	Paris	4	39	sn	Vanc'ver	5	41	r
Budapest	6	43	f	Le Touquet	3	37	f	Perth	33	91	s	Venice	8	46	s
B Aires	21	70	f	Lisbon	14	57	f	Prague	0	32	sn	Vienna	1	34	c
Cairo	16	61	[illegible]	Locarno	7	45	f	Reykjavik	-7	19	sn	Warsaw	-2	28	s
Cape Tn	23	73	[illegible]	L Angeles	14	57	s	Rhodes	13	55	c	Washton	5	41	f
Chicago	2	36	f	Luxembg	2	36	c	Rio de J	33	91	s	Wellngton	25	77	X
Ch'church	22	72	f	Luxor	24	75	[illegible]	Riyadh	23	73	s	Zurich	2	36	

Temperatures at midday local time; X = not available

NOON TODAY

MODERATE
MODERATE
20
20
10

Changes to chart below from noon: high A will build and drift slowly south; lows B, C and F will merge and run south down the North Sea with little change, low D will move east and start to fill, low E will lose its identity



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Aberdeen	7:22	3.4	19:51	3.4	Liverpool	4:43	7.3	17:12	7.2
Avonmouth	0:02	10.0	12:27	9.8	London Bridge	7:24	5.9	19:57	5.9
Belfast	5:00	2.8	17:28	3.0	Lowestoft	3:00	2.2	15:53	2.1
Cardiff	-	-	12:13	9.2	Margate	5:30	3.9	18:08	3.8
Devonport	11:16	4.5	23:59	4.3	Milford Haven	11:54	5.2	-	-
Dover	4:33	5.4	17:09	5.1	Newquay	10:54	5.3	23:36	5.1
Dublin	5:42	3.3	18:26	3.4	Oban	11:19	3.0	-	-
Falmouth	10:47	4.3	23:30	4.1	Penzance	10:22	4.3	23:10	4.1
Greenock	5:58	2.7	17:54	2.8	Portland	11:46	1.3	-	-
Harwich	4:59	3.2	17:35	3.1	Portsmouth	5:14	3.8	17:44	3.6
Holyhead	4:03	4.4	16:29	4.4	Shoreham	4:41	4.9	16:59	4.6
Hull (Albert D)	-	-	12:00	7.0	Southampton	4:37	3.7	17:07	3.6
Ilfracombe	11:30	6.9	-	-	Swansea	-	-	12:02	10.0
King's Lynn	-	-	12:33	4.6	Tees	9:47	8.9	22:14	8.9
Leith	8:33	4.4	21:03	4.4	Walton-On-Naze	5:03	3.5	17:36	3.3

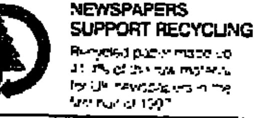
All times GMT. Heights in metres

RNLI RESCUE UPDATE – 8 FEBRUARY



Total number of lives saved in 1998:	1,337
Total number of lifeboat launches in 1998:	6,497
Cost to RNLI per day:	£222,000
Cost to taxpayer:	£0
To make a donation, telephone:	0800 543210

Lifeboats
Royal National Lifeboat Institution
Reg. Charity No. 209603



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Sex, drugs and Carmen
Dance, Page 34



THE TIMES 2

Cole's England goal
Sport, Page 48

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 9 1999

Factory prices increase pressure for further cuts in interest rate

No respite for manufacturing

By Saeed Shah

MANUFACTURING output crashed in December, with factory gate prices falls recorded for the first time, confirming that the sector is mired in recession and piling on the pressure for further interest rate cuts in the coming months.

In December manufacturing output, which excludes oil and utilities, fell by 0.6 per cent compared with the previous month, far more than the 0.2 per cent expected by the City. It was the fifth successive fall in manufacturing and the worst run since the 13 months of successive falls that ended in January 1981.

Caroline Gorman, of 4Cast, the economic consultancy, said: "It really underlines the fact that manufacturing was up the creek without a paddle in December."

In the last quarter of 1998 manufacturing output was down 1.3 per cent from the previous three months and 0.6 per cent down on the fourth quarter of 1997.

A revised figure was also released yesterday for the prices of goods leaving factory gates in December, which showed a 0.1 per cent fall from a year earlier, the first annual drop since records began in 1958.

Douglas McWilliams, of the Centre for Economics and Business Research, said industry was severely hit by overstocking at the end of last year. Professor McWilliams said that growth would continue to be affected by over-stocking in 1999 and this would shave 1 per cent off GDP this year. He predicts GDP growth of just 0.3 per cent this year, with interest rates falling to 4 per cent by the end of 1999. "There is no sign of inflation," he said, adding that he expected this view to be reinforced by the Bank of England's *Inflation Report*, which is due tomorrow.

The last two quarters of contracting manufacturing output in 1998 mean that, for the first time, the sector can be said to be technically in recession. Richard Iley, an economist at ABN Amro, said that although there would be further monthly drops to come, he expected a recovery in the second half of this year as the boost from interest rate cuts feeds into the economy and stocks are run down.

Sales figures released by the British Retail Consortium (BRC) today show that the total value of sales in shops jumped 5 per cent in January, compared with last year.

This was a steep rise from an average of 2.3 per cent sales growth in the previous three months, as heavy discounting in January enticed people back to the shops.

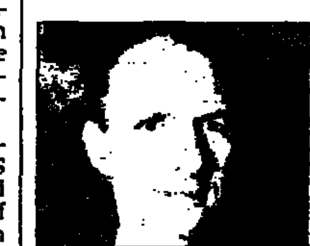
However, the BRC gave warning that it is too early to say the retail sector has turned the corner. Pamela Webber, an economist at the BRC, said: "Retailers are worried that once the sales posters come down from their windows, the shoppers will disappear. It may be that January's figures were just due to bargain hunters, and that clearly is not sustainable."

The weak economic outlook for Europe saw the euro take another knock yesterday, falling to its lowest level yet against the dollar, dropping to $1.1219 from $1.1292 at the close on Friday. Against sterling, the euro was little changed, gaining 0.01p to close at 68.89p.

Robert Lynch, currency strategist at Paribas in New York, said that the attraction of the euro had faded over the past month-and-a-half as expectations of euroland growth now look misplaced in the face of high unemployment, low inflation and highly regulated labour markets.

By contrast, he said, all predictions of a slowdown in US growth have been confounded by the "amazing strength" of the economy, which has been powered by productivity gains.

Business Today



Anatole Kaletsky
says 'Anglo Saxon' banks should put Europe in the dock
Page 29

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	5834.9	(-20 4)
Yield	2.76%	
FTSE All Share	2692.85	(-7.56)
Nikkei	13992.49	(+94.41)
New York:		
Dow Jones	9230.87	(-73.37)*
S&P Composite	1234.69	(-4.71)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	4¾%*	(4¾%)
Long bond	98[illegible]*	(98[illegible])
Yield	5.33%*	(5.35%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	5¼%	(5¼%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	118.30	(118.88)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6362*	(1.6323)
London:		
$	1.6327	(1.6385)
€	1.4515	(1.4517)
SFr	2.3202	(2.3216)
Yen	185.66	(185.06)
£ Index	100.6	(100.7)

DOLLAR

London:		
€	1.1298*	(1.1260)
SFr	1.4167*	(1.4223)
Yen	114.35*	(113.42)
$ Index	104.8	(104.3)

Tokyo close Yen 113.50

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Apr)	$10.55	($10.15)

GOLD

London close	$289.75	($290.15)

* denotes midday trading prices

Exchange rates .... Page 26

US venture capitalist to give away computers

By Martin Barrow

THE Internet frenzy took a new twist yesterday when a US entrepreneur promised to give away thousands of personal computers in return for the right to display advertising on the screens.

Venture capitalist Bill Gross is to offer US consumers a Compaq PC, worth just under $1,000 (about £613), Internet access and electronic mail — all for free — in exchange for viewing targeted advertising. He expects to give away 10,000 computers in the second quarter.

The scheme by Free-PC takes advantage of falling computer prices and the strong appetite among consumers for Internet links. Mr Gross, who is backed by the Barry Diller, the US home shopping tycoon, will generate reveue by charging advertisers for access.

The launch of Free-PC is certain to fuel the debate over the price consumers pay for personal computers in the UK. Last year Intel, the US computer company, accused Dixons, the UK retailer, of stifling growth in demand for PCs in Britain by overcharging.

The complaint, which received a sympathetic hearing from Peter Mandelson, the former Trade and Industry Secretary, was fiercely denied by Dixons at the time. Dixons has since enjoyed success with the launch of its own Internet service and its shares have enjoyed a strong rerating, rising from 472½p in July to a peak of £10.59½ last month on the back of the City's Internet frenzy.

Yesterday BT and Microsoft announced an alliance to develop data services that will offer access to the Internet from mobile phones. Separately, EMI joined with four rival record companies to finance a project to download music direct to home computers via the Internet in an attempt to thwart computer pirates bootlegging music albums by e-mail.

Alliances, page 26
Commentary, page 27

BILL GATES, the world's richest man, has given $3.3 billion (£2 billion) to charity in one of the biggest acts of philanthropy in American history (Oliver August writes from New York). Together with Melinda, his wife, he donated the money to two family foundations that support health and educational projects. Mr Gates is currently subject of an anti-trust trial that has depicted him and his company as aggressive and mean-spirited.

MIKE SCOTT / NEWS TEAM



Wheels in motion: Stephen Byers talks to Kevin Howe, right, managing director of the Longbridge plant, on his visit to the Rover factory yesterday

Government to campaign for Rover plant's survival

By Christine Buckley and Sigrid Aufterbeck

THE Government will mount a strong campaign to press BMW to keep open Rover's Longbridge plant in Birmingham, workers at the plant were told yesterday. It will tell both the company and the German Government that Longbridge is vital to the UK economy.

Stephen Byers, the Trade and Industry Secretary, held crisis talks with managers and unions after last week's boardroom upheaval at BMW, which was triggered by the continuing losses at Rover. He told employees on the works committee, which comprises convenors and shop stewards among the 14,000-strong workforce, that the Government fully supported Longbridge. He said the workforce had addressed the problems of productivity which have helped to plunge Rover into massive losses. He said they had demonstrated flexibility in the rescue plan agreed in December, which involved 2,500 job losses and an overhaul of working practices.

Mr Byers said that he would tell BMW that Longbridge was not only vital to the West Midlands economy — where its closure could cut 50,000 jobs in total — but also to the UK economy. He added that the Government was in close contact with BMW and will do "all we can to represent the interests of Rover and Longbridge in particular".

The future of Rover and Longbridge was thrown into doubt after the British subsidiary's only real supporter, Bernd Pischetsrieder was sacked as chief executive along with his heir apparent, Wolfgang Reitzle. Herr Reitzle had wanted BMW to ditch its Longbridge operation.

The new chief executive is Joachim Milberg, the former head of engineering whose views on the future of Rover are less well-known. It is believed that BMW will review its strategy over the next two weeks.

Safeway upbeat on trading

By Fraser Nelson

SAFEWAY yesterday claimed a small victory in the supermarkets' Christmas trading battle, outstripping rival J Sainsbury with 3 per cent sales growth over the past four months.

The company — still recovering from last year's profits warning — said it has been consistently gaining market share since May, helped by the Triple Points promotion on its ABC loyalty cards.

Simon Laffin, finance director, said: "The scheme needed to bring an extra 2 per cent on sales to break even. It did. When we stopped the promotion, this fell by between 0 and 1 per cent, leaving us with people who had come back for good. For the 17 weeks to February 6 its underlying sales grew by 3 per cent, having slowed to 2.2 per cent over the six weeks to January 2. Last week, J Sainsbury said its underlying sales grew by 1.2 per cent over the 19 weeks to January 30.

Tempus, page 28

Maxwell may be forced to speak to inspectors

By Jon Ashworth

KEVIN MAXWELL, youngest son of the late Robert Maxwell, the media tycoon, may be forced to answer questions put to him by government inspectors, after failing in a High Court legal challenge yesterday.

Mr Maxwell, 39, was challenging the Government's refusal to help to pay for a lawyer to represent him in interviews with inspectors investigating the affairs of Mirror Group Newspapers. Rejecting his application for a judicial review, the judge, Lord Justice Scott, started "certification" proceedings against Mr Maxwell, which could compel him to speak to the inspectors. Failure to comply could lead to Mr Maxwell being held in contempt of court.

The inspectors, Sir Roger Thomas and Raymond Turner, were appointed by the Department of Trade and Industry in June 1992 to investigate the affairs of MGN, with particular regard to the £500 million flotation in 1991. They have heard 171 witnesses in person and received written evidence from 105 others, and want to interview Mr Maxwell.

Mr Maxwell, who was made bankrupt in 1992 and discharged from bankruptcy in 1995, says that, as a married man with six dependent children aged between two and 14, he cannot afford legal fees.

Mr Maxwell argued that the inquiry could lead to further criminal charges and moves to disqualify him from holding company directorships. The inspectors, he said, should be content with the mass of evidence documented during his trial and during other inquiries into his financial affairs.

The hearing continues.

Counter-bid unlikely as Stakis agrees takeover

By Dominic Walsh

A COUNTER-BID for Stakis looked increasingly unlikely last night as the hotel and casino group agreed to a 146p-a-share takeover from the rival Ladbroke Group.

The deal, valuing Stakis at £1.16 billion, or almost £1.4 billion including debt, received a resounding thumbs-up in the City. Ladbroke shares jumped 16 per cent, adding 38p to 269p, while Stakis gained 16p to 157p.

Because the offer is a mix of 60 per cent in new Ladbroke shares and the rest in cash, yesterday's rise lifts the offer price to about 160p, against 109½p before last week's confirmation of the talks. "That should put off any other bidders," said one analyst.

David Michels, Stakis's chief executive, joins the Ladbroke board as head of Hilton International, precipitating the departure of David Jarvis with an estimated £1 million payoff. The other main casualty is Neil Chisman, the Stakis finance director.

Annual cost savings of "at least £16 million" were predicted, although analysts believe the actual figure could be double that. Up to 200 jobs will be lost from the closure of Stakis's Glasgow head office.

The combined chain of 92 UK hotels will lose both the Stakis and Hilton National brands. A new identity based on the Hilton name and capable of being used outside the UK is expected to be drawn up, probably after discussion with Hilton Hotels Corporation, Ladbroke's US partner.

Tempus, page 28; City Diary, 29

Cut!

Action!
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John Charcol.

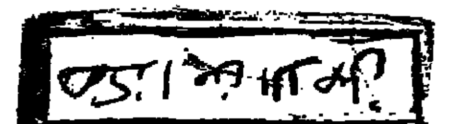
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BIG BUSINESSES FORGE ALLIANCES TO CONQUER WORLD OF TECHNOLOGY

BT-Microsoft link gives mobiles access to Net

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

BRITISH TELECOM and Microsoft yesterday formed an alliance to develop data services that will offer access to the Internet from mobile phones around the world.

The deal — which emphasises the increasing co-operation of computer and telecom companies to exploit the benefits of new technology — is in direct competition to Symbian, the partnership of Psion, Ericsson, Nokia and Motorola. Yesterday shares in Psion, which recently hit all-time highs on the London stock market, fell 52½p to 876p as details of the rival offering emerged.

Of the BT-Microsoft tie-up, which could yet be joined by AT&T, the US telecoms group, in the venture, one Wall Street analyst said: "BT is obviously serious about being a player in wireless Internet services. They've made a powerful point. Wireless Internet is becoming the next big thing in telecoms."

Some analysts agree with the projections of mobile operators that next year more mobile phones with Internet connection will be sold than laptop computers.

BT will involve Concert, its international corporate customer arm, in the alliance which will offer services primarily aimed at businesses. Concert was originally built up as part of BT's attempted takeover of MCI, the US phone company. The failure of that deal left a gaping hole in BT's US expansion strategy which it now hopes to fill with the new Microsoft and AT&T links.

Microsoft's main interest in the deal is establishing the Windows operating system as a universal standard for mobile Internet communications.

Paul Maritz, Microsoft's group vice-president for platforms and applications, announced the partnership with BT at an industry conference in New Orleans.

Last November, Microsoft and Qualcomm of the US created a joint venture, Wireless Knowledge, to develop wireless services for business customers in the US. The alliance with BT is expected to focus on non-US customers, with trials in the UK beginning in the spring.

In another link-up of telecoms and computer companies, Motorola and Cisco Systems, the Internet hardware company, yesterday agreed an alliance to develop mobile Internet technology.

The two companies say they will spend up to $1 billion (£600 million) over the next five years to make the Internet as versatile over mobile networks as through telephone lines.



Barry Diller is backing the venture offering free computers

EMI and rivals band together to beat bootleggers

BY FRASER NELSON

EMI has joined with four rival record companies to finance a project to download music direct to home computers via the Internet in an attempt to thwart computer pirates bootlegging music albums by e-mail.

Universal, Sony, Time Warner, Bertelsmann and EMI are understood to have paid about £15 million to take part in the so-called Madison Project, a six-month experiment co-ordinated by IBM. The five companies have donated 200 albums between them, which will be made available for downloading from an IBM website by authorised users. IBM believes its system to be pirate-proof, with only authorised users able to play the music on their computers or make tape recordings.

The experiment comes in response to MP3, a compression formula that enables computer users to download pirated CD-quality songs from the Internet, then record them on their own tapes and discs.

This has spawned a new breed of music fans who swap pilfered songs by e-mailing them to each other.

In the absence of any official Internet music sites, Internet pirates have grown to dominate the market, making them freely available all over the world. Although the technology is still in its infancy, analysts believe it could, in time, ruin the music industry unless it finds a way of making secure recordings.

IBM will monitor the San Diego users to see if they succeed in making pirate copies of the music.

Firm offers free computers and endless adverts

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

A CONSORTIUM of Silicon Valley investors and media moguls launched a new company called FreePC yesterday aimed at giving away computers to anyone agreeing to have advertising permanently coming up on their screens.

Barry Diller, the home shopping media man who made Fox Television into the fourth national network in the US, is backing the venture, the brainchild of Bill Gross, who runs a California-based venture capital fund. Compaq will supply the computers, including an Internet connection through which advertising will continually be uploaded.

In return FreePC customers will supply detailed information about their income, tastes and education so that advertisers can target specific audiences.

The business model is similar to mobile phone offers in which companies give away the hardware — in their case the telephone — for free to win customers and make money from the use of the phone. Some computer pioneers believe that free hardware will become a mainstream trend in the industry: as computer manufacturers give away free software to computer buyers, so Internet content providers could give away the hardware to bind consumers to their output channel.

Don LaVigne, the FreePC chief executive, said: "The consumer will get connected into the information age without cost and advertisers will get a broad demographic of a very targeted audience.

"Free PCs and Internet access will be the inevitable next step with the explosion of e-commerce and direct online marketing."

Critics say hardware giveaways will be limited to bottom-range computers. FreePC is offering a Compaq machine retailing at $600 (£360). Anyone who wants a more powerful computer would have to pay the difference.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Aid to emerging nations shrinks

PARSIMONY of governments and crash-induced fears of private investors made the flow of finance from developed to emerging economies shrink by 11 per cent to $324 billion (£199 million) in 1997, the first drop in the decade. A report from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development projects a further fall for 1998.

Official development aid by OECD members fell to an average of 0.22 per cent of output, the lowest recorded and less than a third of the United Nations target of 0.7 per cent. Some European countries trimmed budgets to meet Maastricht treaty rules but America's contribution, at 0.09 per cent of output, was proportionately lowest. Only direct private investment rose, chiefly to buy businesses cheaply in crashed Asian economies. The OECD estimates that 1.3 billion people, a quarter of the world population, exist on less than $1 per day.

Unilever disposal

UNILEVER, the Anglo-Dutch consumer goods manufacturer, is selling the salad and dressings business of Fritz Homann Lebensmittelwerke to Gilde Investment Management, an investment fund based in The Netherlands, for an undisclosed sum. The business, which boasts annual sales of about £175 million, will be merged with Beeck Feinkostgruppe, a German salad and dressing company owned by Gilde, to create a new convenience foods group in Germany.

Thomson-CSF record

THOMSON-CSF, the French defence electronics group, saw sales rise only slightly in 1998 but a 7 per cent increase in new orders brought the order book to a record level. Sales rose 5.1 per cent to €6.18 billion (£4.28 billion) last year, while new orders rose 7 per cent to €7.02 billion. Thomson-CSF said that the order book at the end of the year was up 20 per cent to a record €13.4 billion, from €11.1 billion a year earlier. In 1997 sales came to €5.87 billion and new orders €6.57 billion.

Roxspur sales drop

ROXSPUR, the specialist manufacturer, gave warning that its order book from UK manufacturing customers is "extremely short" and that a cumulative shortfall in sales volumes has seen it fail to hit growth targets. Shares fell 14½p to 48p off a 12-month high of 117½p. Pre-tax profits for the six months to December 31 rose £500,000 to £1.5 million; earnings per share fell from 2.8p to 2.3p. There is no interim dividend.

Dana shares rise 25%

SHARES in Dana Petroleum put on 25 per cent yesterday, rising 1½p to 7¼p, after the company realised £21 million in asset sales and the renegotiation of the take-or-pay contract with British Gas Trading for its stakes in the Victor gasfield. The contract sees Dana receive compensation of £11.3 million, while the sale of one third of its interest in Victor to Centrica and the sale of other interests in offshore blocks brought in £9.7 million.

Menzies airport deal

JOHN MENZIES, the distribution group, has won a £25 million, five-year contract to provide a passenger and baggage transfer service at Heathrow. The company is taking on 120 staff from the existing contractor and will acquire seven coaches and 35 specially designed vans to transport an estimated three million passengers and 6.5 million bags on the service to be branded Connect.

Change to Interest Rates

With effect from the start of business on 9th February 1999 the following Business Cheque, Deposit and Lending rates are applicable to the accounts set out below:

	OLD AER %*	OLD GROSS %**	NEW AER %*	NEW GROSS %**	NEW NET %***
Business Investment Account – paid monthly					
30 day notice account					
£250,000+	4.75	4.65	4.23	4.15	3.32
£100,000-249,999	4.70	4.60	4.18	4.10	3.28
£25,000-99,999	4.44	4.35	3.92	3.85	3.08
£10,000-24,999	3.92	3.85	3.40	3.35	2.68
£1-9,999	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.40
Premier Interest Account – paid monthly					
14 day notice account					
£250,000+	4.65	4.55	4.13	4.05	3.24
£100,000-249,999	4.44	4.35	3.92	3.85	3.08
£25,000-99,999	4.18	4.10	3.66	3.60	2.88
£10,000-24,999	3.76	3.70	3.25	3.20	2.56
£1-9,999	2.53	2.50	2.02	2.00	1.60
Business Call Account – paid monthly					
£250,000+	3.09	3.05	2.58	2.55	2.04
£50,000-249,999	2.89	2.35	2.38	2.35	1.88
£10,000-49,999	2.53	2.50	2.02	2.00	1.60
£1,000-9,999	2.22	2.20	1.71	1.70	1.36
£1-999	1.97	1.95	1.46	1.45	1.16
Practice Call Account – paid quarterly					
£1+	4.11	4.05	3.55	3.50	2.80
Designated Clients Account – paid quarterly					
£100,000+	3.96	3.90	3.44	3.40	2.72
£50,000-99,999	3.96	3.90	3.29	3.25	2.60
£10,000-49,999	3.60	3.55	2.93	2.90	2.32
£2,000-9,999	2.68	2.65	2.17	2.15	1.72
£1-1,999	0.85	0.85	0.35	0.35	0.28
Schools Banking Account – paid quarterly					
£1+	3.85	3.80	3.29	3.25	2.60
Capital Reserve Account† – paid quarterly					
7 day notice account					
£250,000+	4.63	4.55	4.11	4.05	3.24
£100,000-249,999	4.42	4.35	3.91	3.85	3.08
£50,000-99,999	4.16	4.10	3.65	3.60	2.88
£10,000-49,999	3.75	3.70	3.24	3.20	2.56
£1-9,999	3.24	3.20	2.63	2.60	2.08
Business Interest Cheque Account* – paid quarterly					
£250,000+	2.37	2.35	1.86	1.85	1.48
£100,000-249,999	1.91	1.90	1.41	1.40	1.12
£50,000-99,999	1.46	1.45	0.95	0.95	0.76
£25,000-49,999	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.40
£10,000-24,999	1.00	1.00	0.40	0.40	0.32
£2,000-9,999	0.75	0.75	0.25	0.25	0.20
£1-1,999	0.50	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.20
BICA for Charities†† – paid quarterly					
£1+	2.37	2.35	1.86	1.85	1.48

	ANNUAL RATE %
Flexible Business Loans	
Standard	11.40
Special	9.24
Preferential	8.76
Business Overdraft	
Managed A	11.04
Managed B	9.96
Managed C	8.88
Managed D	8.40

TSB

Interest rates may vary from time to time. All rates are per annum except where stated.
*AER stands for Annual Equivalent Rate and is the notional rate which illustrates the gross or tax-free rate as if paid and compounded on an annual basis. As every advert for a savings product will contain an AER you will be able to compare more easily what return you can expect from your savings over time.
**GROSS – Gross rate is the contractual rate of interest payable before the deduction of income tax at the rate specified by law.
***NET – The rate of interest which would be payable after allowing for the deduction of income tax at the rate specified by law. Interest is normally paid at the net rate unless the Account falls within an exempt category or the account holder qualifies to receive interest gross. †These products are no longer open to new customers.
*For charities with turnover under £100,000 pa. ††For charities with turnover above £100,000 pa.
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TSB Bank Scotland plc, Henry Duncan House, 120 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4LH

Shell plans $8bn for Nigeria

BY MARTIN BARROW

SHELL is to invest $8.5 billion (£5.2 billion) in oil and gas projects in Nigeria, the company announced yesterday. The projects could lift the troubled nation's oil output by 25 per cent over the next five years.

Taken together, the projects amount to the biggest investment in sub-Saharan Africa, and could rejuvenate the oil industry in Nigeria after years of neglect caused by political unrest.

Key elements of the investment are the development of four big offshore fields, including the giant Bonga discovery, where production is expected to exceed 350,000 barrels per day (bpd). This oilfield will be linked via a new pipeline to the Bonny liquefied natural gas plant.

The announcement was a welcome vote of confidence in Nigeria for its military Government and civilian rulers due to take over power in May who need to find foreign financing to plug a deficit caused by a slump in oil prices.

Shell currently produces a little less than half of Nigeria's daily output of two million barrels of crude, mostly from onshore wells at $2 a barrel. The deep offshore reserves offer a brighter prospect for Shell, away from the community disturbances.

EXCHANGE RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.60	2.42
Austria Sch	20.98	19.32
Belgium Fr	61.75	56.79
Canada $	2.550	2.362
Cyprus Cyp £	0.8655	0.8141
Denmark Kr	11.38	10.49
Egypt	5.77	[illegible]
Finland Mkk	9.16	8.43
France Fr	9.96	9.21
Germany Dm	3.002	2.760
Greece Dr	492	455
Hong Kong $	[illegible]	12.28
Iceland	127	107
Indonesia	15100	13100
Ireland Pt	1.1977	1.1037
Israel Shk	7.02	6.26
Italy Lira	2936	2749
Japan Yen	200.62	185.09
Malta	0.666	0.607
Netherlands Gld	3.390	3.095
New Zealand $	3.06	2.82
Norway Kr	13.13	12.19
Portugal Esc	303.59	281.56
S Africa Rd	10.33	9.43
Spain Pta	252.02	234.23
Sweden Kr	13.70	12.60
Switzerland Fr	2.475	2.257
Turkey Lira	572355	534312
USA $	1.739	1.596

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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No such thing as a free byte



COMMENTARY

by our City Editor

It is but a short hop from offering free Internet access to providing free computers. While Sir Stanley Kalms may not yet be ready to make it, in the United States the give away computer has arrived.

This development will, no doubt, catch the attention of those in Government who have decided that berating British companies for ripping off their customers amounts to an electorate-friendly strategy on consumer affairs. The Office of Fair Trading has already been encouraged to take a look at the prices that Sir Stanley and his competitors charge for computers. No matter how they may try to justify their prices, they most certainly aren't giving them away.

But FreePC is no exercise in philanthropy. The motive for giving away the hardware is the belief that there will be fortunes to be made out of the software and those who use it. The day when we live our lives, or a very important part of them, in the brave new world of the Web moves ever closer.

The Madison Project gives an indication of the radical changes to come. Courtesy of record companies, IBM and the Web, music lovers in San Diego are going to be able to download the albums they would like to own. They might even do so through the keyboard of a free computer. The music companies will be able to slash production costs; the music buyer will be offered almost instant gratification. Should he or she be a sensitive soul, rather fond of browsing through a CD collection and reading the covers, even though they lack the sensory appeal of the old LPs, then the technology is available to meet their needs. Every home could be equipped to produce a CD, complete with the appropriate printed cover, from the downloaded information.

The music lover would have had no need to venture out into the high street or queue to pay at his favourite record store. The computer would have done away with the need for a visit to HMV or Our Price. Could this realisation be gradually dawning on the venture capitalists who appear to be losing some of their initial enthusiasm for relieving Richard Branson of his chain of more than 200 Our Price shops?

Probably not. The Madison Project is, after all, restricted to San Diego at the moment, so poses little threat to record sales in Surbiton or Southampton. But it is another pointer to the way that e-commerce could develop and the drastic effect it could have on the retail property market.

Much has been heard about the potential impact on conventional bookstores of Amazon.com and the other Internet bookstores. Records are also increasingly being sold over the Web. But almost immediate delivery, and significantly lower costs, would make Internet-buying almost irresistible. High street record sales would be virtually dead. A prospect that would cause some concern to Woolworth as well as Mr Branson.

Let's hear a hand for the economy

What a great self-justifying day the statisticians have provided for those famous two-handed economists.

On the one hand, manufacturing was falling vertiginously into recession at the end of 1998. And it is not just export orders, hit first by the strong pound and now by the weak euro. Factory prices to domestic buyers are now falling consistently. For the first time since records began 40 years ago, producer output prices have fallen year on year. The over-riding fear must now be of a genuine deflationary spiral, the first here since the depression of the late 1920s and early 1930s.

On the other hand, retail sales rebounded strongly in January, however modest the big shopkeepers themselves would prefer to be about customers' ability and willingness to dip deeper into their wallets. They have not, however, thrown caution to the winds. Much to the retailers' chagrin, consumers have become bargain-hunters, intent on finding the best deals. The sales increases that the British Retail Consortium was anxious to play down yesterday were only bought at the cost of its members' margins.

By a process of evolution, most City economists are now more likely to be one-handed at any given moment. Put them together, though, and half a dozen ferrets in a sack have nothing on the ensuing erudite debate.

The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, you may think, is bound to be just such a dialectical academy. That may explain, if anything can, why the Bank was still racked with fear as recently as last summer, lest the UK economy was overheating so uncontrollably that it might go critical.

Inflation paranoia might still haunt the corridors once paced by Montague Norman if America's Alan Greenspan had not told his peers round the world that it ain't necessarily so. Conversion, once it came, was completed fairly rapidly.

The Bank, with or without the latest output figures in mind, has seen the vast empty space between base rates and what the UK needs and the rest of Europe charges. It is trying to bridge that gap at a brisk but orderly pace.

The change in psychology is vital. It should mean that any sustained recovery in retail sales is treated with relief rather than alarm and that a weaker pound is greatly to be wished. The battle to stop the whole economy following manufacturing down the plughole is far from over and all allies must be welcome.

Lure of the euro is all Greek to them

Greece was the only EU country to want to join the euro but suffer hurtful rejection. It still faces labours of Hercules to meet Maastricht tests and be next to join in 2001.

Privatisation candidates such as Olympic Airways and Ionian Bank should have raised plenty of cash to window-dress state coffers by now, but they are still not coming up to scratch.

Olympic should have thundered up the runway years ago, but remains grounded. Efforts, including cash injections, to make the unreconstructed carrier more profitable have misfired. A rash of strikes sent passengers fleeing. Profits of £25 million in 1996 turned into a loss of £85 million in 1997 and an expected loss of £10million to £35 million in 1998. Last week, the Government gave up and invited outsiders to bid for a management contract with a strategic alliance in view, perhaps with British Airways. Yesterday, Theodore Tsakiridis, the managing director, resigned.

An attempt to sell the State's majority stake in the 222-branch Ionian Bank failed last August, so JP Morgan was brought in to help. Days before yesterday's new deadline for bids, however, Morgan had to reveal that a fifth of the bank's assets were accounted for by one back-to-back deposit and loan deal in London. There has been no stampede to buy.

Perhaps the Greeks should not be concerned. The vaunted euro has just set another record low. At this rate the euro 11 will soon be begging to join the drachma.

Duff investment

IT IS just a touch embarrassing for the chairman of the Personal Investment Authority to find himself embroiled in a dispute over a duff investment, but Joe Palmer can probably shrug off his unfortunate involvement with Laser Richmount. He, presumably, believed that Telford was set to become the international office location of choice when he set about extolling the attractions of the Telford enterprise zone trust. Over-optimistic valuations have cost investors dear. The PIA chief will no doubt sympathise.

Hillsdown sells biscuits operation

Hillsdown Holdings, the struggling food group, has sold its continental biscuits operation to its management for £42 million. Proceeds of the sale will reduce Hillsdown's gearing to below 100 per cent. The sale comes six weeks after Hillsdown sold the Ross Breeders poultry breeding business for £100 million.

Hillsdown also wants to dispose of its wines and spirits wholesaling operation, but plans to offload its furniture making companies, a potato business and a poultry processor have been shelved.

B&B letter

Bradford & Bingley, the building society, is spending £500,000 writing to its 2.5 million members urging them to reject the pro-conversion resolution which Stephen Major, a plumber from Co Antrim in Northern Ireland, has put forward for the annual meeting in April. Meanwhile, Michael Hardern is planning to target the Nationwide, the country's biggest building society, for a third time.

BHL buys Rebel

Brands Hatch Leisure, the motor circuit operator, has acquired the Rebel Group, a karting circuit operator, for up to £5.5 million in cash and loan notes. The Rebel Group runs the Daytona Raceway karting tracks in Milton Keynes and White City, West London.

Vickers forecast

Vickers, the diversified engineering company, said it estimated pre-tax earnings in 1998 were about £55.6 million. It also expected a net exceptional profit of £101.4 million and intends to retain the final dividend at 4.5p. Tempus, page 28

Pubs takeover talks

Shares of Cafe Inns, the North of England pubs operator, yesterday rose 18½p to 222½p as the group said it was in discussions that may lead to a takeover. Pubs'n'Bars also said it had received a takeover offer. Its shares rose 2p to 52p.

Property disposal

Chesterfield Properties is planning to sell off its property portfolio after failing to find a buyer for the whole group.

Scotia tops the market with a 42% General Mills injection

By Paul Durman

SCOTIA HOLDINGS yesterday was the best-performing share on the UK stock market following a wide-ranging deal with General Mills, the American food company.

Shares in the Scottish drug development company, which once topped £8, jumped 42 per cent to 98½p.

General Mills, the company behind Cheerios cereals and Yoplait yoghurts, is to develop a range of diet foods using Scotia's Olibra, an ingredient that is said to induce a sensation of fullness.

Scotia is expected to earn royalties of 2 to 3 per cent of sales when the product is launched in two years' time.

General Mills has a turnover of more than $6 billion (£3.6 billion). However, it will develop cereals and other products for markets, with a worldwide value of $75 billion.

Rob Dow, Scotia's chief executive, said: "This is an enormous validation of the potential commercial value of the technology. These guys have found the clinical data to be satisfactory. It will attract other significant players to do deals with us." It was not clear whether the General Mills deal will affect plans by St Ivel, owned by Unigate, to launch desserts and yoghurts containing Olibra later this year. Skanemejerier, a Swedish milk company, is already marketing Maval yoghurts in the UK but it is struggling to meet Scotia's sales targets.

General Mills has acquired an exclusive licence to apply Scotia's "satiety technology" to all food and drinks in the US, Canada and Mexico, and a worldwide licence for its use in cereals. The American group will pay modest milestone payments to maintain the licences.

Dr Dow, formerly with Roche, has abandoned many of Scotia's fat-based drug development projects since taking over as chief executive last year, while cutting staff numbers from 420 to 250.

Poorly-designed clinical trials had prevented Scotia winning regulatory approval for promising drugs such as Tarabetic, a treatment for the nerve damage caused by diabetes.



PETER TREVNOR

Rob Dow said the General Mills deal is likely to attact other significant players to Scotia

Palmer snared in dispute over property plan

THE chairman of the Personal Investment Authority, a pair of property developers nicknamed the Earls of Dudley and 900 private investors have become embroiled in a legal dispute over a Midlands property scheme that went sour (see Commentary, this page).

At the centre of the dispute are two office buildings in Telford. Their development in 1992 was financed through a £30 million enterprise zone property trust (EZPT) — the Laser Richmount (Telford) Trust, which is now said to be worth just £9.3 million.

The investors are aggrieved at the collapse in the capital value of the two office blocks, where the space is only 30 per cent let, and are seeking to recoup their losses.

Last week, a group representing 80 per cent of the investors served a statement of claim on the EZPT's sponsors, Johnson Fry, the financial adviser, and Richard Ellis, the property firm, alleging that investors had been misled by the original marketing literature.



Palmer: left to join PIA

Brian Woodward, spokesman for the investors, described the scheme as "highly speculative and grossly overpriced". He said: "The investors relied on the sponsors as they held themselves out as specialists with experience in EZPTs. Unfortunately, this reliance was misplaced."

Mr Woodward said the tax benefits of the scheme had been wiped out by the fall in value of the Telford buildings, leaving investors with a net loss. The trust's units had a net worth of less than 60p in the pound.

The investors, who each contributed an average of £34,000 to the trust, also argue that the rental income on the Telford properties was misrepresented by Johnson Fry and Richard Ellis as guaranteed for up to 30 years. In fact, the trust's bank guarantee lasted for just six-and-a-half years.

Although the investors have focused their legal action on the sponsors — both of which declined to comment — they also considered bringing a suit against the trust's manager, Laser Richmount, chaired by Joe Palmer, then chief executive of Legal & General, until he left to join the PIA.

Mr Woodward said the trustees of the scheme were separately pursuing legal action against Grimley, another firm of surveyors, which provided the original valuation of £30.2 million. Mr Woodward said "a retrospective valuation" of the Telford properties had them closer to £14 million.

Laser Richmount, is 70 per cent owned by V&P Midlands, the development company of Roy and Don Richardson, the brothers who shot to fame and fortune by turning a piece of wasteland in Dudley into the Merry Hill shopping complex, thus the Earls soubriquet.

They built the office blocks, Plaza Tower and Plaza Court, and then agreed to lease them back for 25 years through a subsidiary named Telpa, so guaranteeing the rental income for the investors.

This income was also guaranteed for six-and-a-half years by a deposit with Lloyds Bank. However, when that pool of money ran out in September 1998, Telpa said it would have to renege on the leaseback.

Investors opposed these plans and the Richardsons agreed to continue paying the rent while new tenants are found. Mr Woodward argues the nature of the guarantee on the rental income was thus misrepresented, a charge the sponsors and Richard Ellis are sure to contest.

RICHARD MILES

Rebus joins the market exodus

By Robert Lea

REBUS, the IT services group, joined the flow of quoted companies being taken private yesterday, blaming a lack of interest in smaller shares on the London stock market.

Peter Presland, Rebus chief executive, who will remain in the post after the buyout, said: "It is imperative for us to access resources to grow this business. What is the point of remaining a quoted business if you cannot access these resources through the markets?"

Rebus, whose IT interests include personnel outsourcing, payroll services and technology for the London insurance market, is being taken private by Warburg Pincus and General Atlantic Partners, two US venture capital funds skewed toward the IT sector who have bid 182p per share for the company.

The offer, recommended by the Rebus board, values the group at £172 million or at more than 31 times' historic earnings. The deal represents a 32 per cent premium to Rebus's shares from before Friday's statement when the company said it had received a bid.

Since Rebus was demerged from CE Heath, the insurance group, three years ago at a price of 88p, the shares have habitually traded at a significant discount to many others in the IT sector. The shares rose 18p to 177½p.

Inchcape disposals near £650m

INCHCAPE, the international trading conglomerate, continued its asset disposal program with the sale of its shipping services division to Electra Fleming, the venture capital firm, for £47.5 million (Paul Armstrong writes).

The sale takes the proceeds from the divestment programme to £648.5 million, paving the way for a £500 million-plus return to shareholders later this year.

Inchcape is on target to complete its sell-off by June, with only two businesses to be sold: a consumable products distributorship in the Middle East and half an office products distributorship in the Asia-Pacific region.

Profits up 40% at PizzaExpress

By Dominic Walsh

PIZZAEXPRESS, the fast-growing restaurant operator, defied the economic gloom yesterday with a 40 per cent jump in half-year profits and a positive outlook on its prospects.

The group, which has more than 200 restaurants, lifted pre-tax profits from £9.4 million to £13.2 million in the six months to December 31, from turnover 28 per cent higher at £61 million. Earnings per share reached 14.9p (10.3p) and the interim dividend is 1.3p (1.05p).

Like-for-like sales growth, although well below the 12 per cent of this time last year, was nevertheless well ahead of most competitors at 3 per cent. The group said it saw "no sign of the underlying demand for our pizzas slackening".

David Page, the chairman, said: "It's a bit variable, but we're hoping to stay in positive territory for the full year."

Neither its fledgeling pasta brands nor its international franchises are expected to make much of a contribution until 2001. New franchises are under negotiation covering South Africa, Spain, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Poland and North Africa.

In addition, the company is close to signing a joint venture for Japan in which it would invest about £125,000.

Tempus, page 28

IT'S PAINFULLY SLOW
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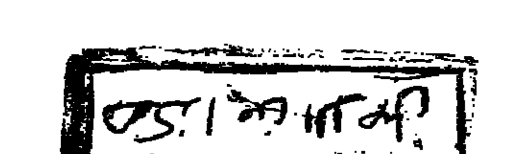
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fig. 1

fig. 2

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FKI continues to rise as bid speculation grows

FRESH speculative buying had **FKI** up and running again amid intense talk in the Square Mile that a bid for the company is imminent.

The engineering group rose 11½p to 175p on turnover of almost six million shares amid claims the board was locked in a meeting. Stories doing the rounds last week claimed Jeff Whalley, retiring chairman, had secured financial backing to take the company private. He has already indicated he *would be prepared to make an* offer worth 200p a share, valuing the business at £1.13 billion. But this has met with opposition *from the rest of the* board, which says it is not enough having seen the price slump from the 227p level last year to a low of 102½p.

Mr Whalley resigned from the board last month and stated his intention to retire as chairman in July.

Meanwhile, the speculators are not ruling out the possibility of a bid from Ingersoll-Rand, the US industrial group, which has been looking at suitable acquisitions.

Share prices generally ended a lacklustre session on a flat note with the FTSE 100 index down 20.4 at 5,834.9, while the FTSE 250 index also shed 6.1 at 5,205.4.

London's demise reflected opening losses on Wall Street where the Dow Jones industrial average slumped almost 100 points, rattled by the claims of one investment guru that the market could fall by as much as 10 per cent in the next few weeks. Turnover in London was again on the high side with more than a billion shares changing hands despite *the absence of any fresh* corporate action.

Hopes that **Lasmo**, up 14p to 118½p, and **Enterprise Oil**, *10¼p better at 234½p, may* soon have something positive to say about their proposed get-together drew the specula*tors out again. They say that if* the two companies leave it much longer someone may beat them to it.

There is talk of a bid for Lasmo from **BG**, up 1½p to 362p. Word is it wants to make full use of Lasmo's assets. Italy's ENI may also bid for Enterprise.

There was a muted response to the trading update from **Safeway**, 2p lower at 276p, which reported a 3 per cent increase in like-for-like sales during the first 17 weeks of the second half. Rival **J Sainsbury**, down another 9¼p to 383¼p, last week reported a meagre 1.5 per cent rise in like-for-like sales and gave a gloomy account of current trading. WestLB Panmure, the broker, has lowered its profits forecast for the year to £725 million. **Asda** also seems to have lost some of its speculative attraction with the price retreating 2¾p to 153¼p.


Peter Presland, chief executive of Rebus, which raced up 18p to *177½p on the back of a bid valuing the company at £172 million*

Meanwhile, the speculators continue to chase **Pilkington** higher in the hope that a bidder will soon materialise for Britain's biggest glassmaker. The price closed 7p dearer at 71½p and has now come up from a recent low of 50½p.

Rebus Group has become the latest of a clutch of computer companies to find itself on the receiving end of a bid in *recent weeks. Bermudian*-based Pincus and General Atlantic Partners has offered 182p a share valuing Rebus at £172 million. The shares raced up 18p to 177½p.

Hopes of an imminent bid at **Manganese Bronze** have evaporated after the group moved to dispel speculation that had driven the price from a low of 178½p since the start of the year. The price touched 255p before closing *unchanged at 226½p*.

There was early confusion in **Freepages** as the price shaded 1p to 31½p. Robert Bonnier, *chief executive, sold almost* nine million shares at 31½p, but 6.74 million of those shares were repurchased by Toocs International, a company controlled by Mr Bonnier. His wife has sold 1.3 million shares at the same price. The reshuffle raises Mr Bonnier's holding in the company to 45 million shares, or 8.6 per cent.

Worthing Group held steady at a low of 24½p despite one man's decision to take advantage of the price to top up his holding. Joseph Dwek has bought 6.97 million shares taking his holding to 7.19 million shares, or 13.7 per cent.

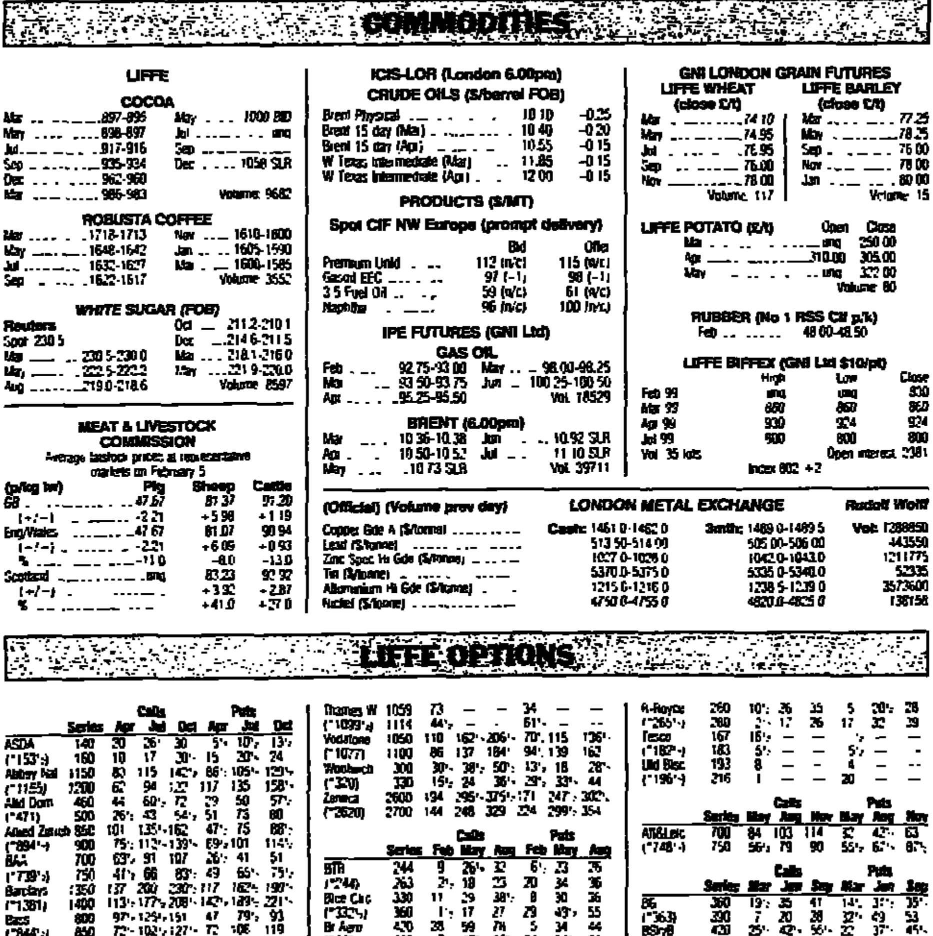
Edward Burgess has bought an extra 20,000 in **Eurodis Electron**, 5p lower at 61½p. It takes his total holding to 70,000 shares, or less than 1 per cent.

NSB Retail stood out with a jump of 27½p to 262½p on the back of some positive comments from Teather & Greenwood, *the broker*.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: Bond prices suffered losses stretching to more than £1 as they followed overseas *bond markets* lower in lacklustre trading. Prices fell 50p in the first hour and then spent much of the session *trading in narrow limits*. Dealers reported another sell-off just before the close. Issues about the ten-year range were *worst affected*.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt fell 68p to £118.30 as 30,000 contracts were completed. Among conventional issues, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 dropped £1.04 to £149.70, while in shorts, Treasury 7 per cent 2002 lost 18p at £107.56.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Wall Street gave up early gains as confidence in blue chips evaporated. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 73.37 points to 9,230.87.



CHRISTMAS was just as bad as many retailers feared and January is unlikely to have been much better. *Last year they had* the benefit of building society windfalls. But there was none of that this time round and *the* competition was even stronger.

Isabelle Payet at Sutherlands, the broker, says some retailers managed to escape the worst and Internet links showed some of them in a new light.

Ms Payet expects trading conditions to begin to im*prove towards the second* half of 1999 and has already drawn up a shopping list.

WH Smith, 1p firmer at *576½p, and Arcadia, down* 5½p to 188½p, have both been upgraded to a "buy" by Sutherlands. It expects them to take advantage of on-line sales of clothing, books, video and music.

Kingfisher, 7½p higher at 677½p, and Body Shop, 2p dearer at 90½p, are also on the "buy" list. But DFS Furniture, up 7½p at 226p, shows few signs of recovery and remains a "sell".

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	9230.87 (-73.37)
S&P Composite	1234.69 (-4.71)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	13892.49 (+94.41)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	9139.60 (-50.60)
Amsterdam:	
AEX Index	528.24 (-6.12)
Sydney:	
AO	2900.00 (-11.90)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	5027.22 (-53.56)
Singapore:	
Straits	1336.88 (-23.30)
Brussels:	
BEL20	3446.17 (-28.39)
Paris:	
CAC-40	4152.41 (+5.11)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	1367.70 (-3.80)
London:	
FT 30	3584.0 (-17.0)
FTSE 100	5834.9 (-20.4)
FTSE 250	5205.4 (-6.1)
FTSE 350	2783.5 (-8.7)
FTSE Eurotop 100	2741.35 (-16.09)
FTSE All-Share	2692.85 (-7.56)
FTSE Non Financials	2776.28 (+1.14)
FTSE Fixed Interest	157.70 (-0.41)
FTSE Govt Secs	115.43 (-0.43)
Bargains	76010
SEAQ Volume	1010.9m
US$	1.6327 (-0.0057)
Euro	0.6889 (+0.0001)
£:SDR	1.1774
Exchange Index	100.6 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
RPI	164.4 Dec (2.8%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	162.4 Dec (2.6%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

AIM VCT	100		...
Abbey Natl Dublin Inv	88		...
BFS O'seas Inc & Gwth Cap	98	–	½
BFS O'seas Inc & Gwth Inc	120	+	½
Close Bros Dev VCT	100		...
Gander Properties	7		...
Jupiter En Zero Dv Pf	106¾	–	½
Jupiter Enhanced Inc	99		...
Singer & Frd AIM VCT	100		...
Yeoman II Equity Units	103		..
Yeoman II Inv Tst Cap	5¼		...
Yeoman II Inv Tst Inc	97½		...
Yeoman II Zero Div Pf	116¼	–	¼

RIGHTS ISSUES

Ambient Media n/p (49)	¾	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Stock	Close	Chng	Chng%
Scotia	98½	+ 29	+ 41.7
Liberty Life	1025	+ 168¾	+ 19.7
ISA Intl	48½	+ 7	+ 16.8
Ladbroke	269	+ 38	+ 16.4
Eleco	25	+ 3½	+ 16.2
LASMO	118½	+ 14	+ 13.3
ASW	17	+ 2	+ 13.3
CML Micro	85½	+ 10	+ 13.2
Fine Art Dev	100	+ 11½	+ 12.9
Cortecs	25½	+ 2¾	+ 12.0
Nsb Retail Sys	262½	+ 27½	+ 11.7
Stakis	157	+ 16	+ 11.3
Rebus	177½	+ 18	+ 11.2
Comino	225	+ 22½	+ 11.1
Pilkington	71½	+ 7	+ 10.8
Limelight	47	+ 4½	+ 10.5
European Mtr	74½	+ 7	+ 10.3
Fincl Objects	335	+ 31½	+ 10.3
Unidare	110	+ 10	+ 10.0
Cafe Inns	224	+ 20	+ 9.8
GB Railways	157½	+ 14	+ 9.7

FALLS:

Stock	Close	Chng	Chng%
Inner Workings	19½	– 18	– 48.0
Peptide Thera	126	– 21½	– 14.5
Network Tech	20½	– 3	– 12.7
Eurodis Elec	61½	– 5	– 7.5
Northern	137½	– 11	– 7.4
Easynet	237	– 16	– 6.3
Lilleshall	44½	– 3	– 6.3
Psion	876	– 52½	– 5.6
Austin Reed	80	– 4½	– 5.3
Select App	605	– 34	– 5.3
Hend Tech	135	– 7½	– 5.2
GFSA	99¼	– 5½	– 5.2
Ramco Egy	232½	– 12½	– 5.1
Sothebys	2125	– 112½	– 5.0

TEMPUS

Find room at the inn

THE rise in the price of *Ladbroke stock yester*day means the value of the mixed cash and share offer for Stakis rose by 14p. But even at 160p instead of 146p, Stakis is a snip.

*Ladbroke said yesterday it would make prof*its of £276.9 million in 1998, 22 per cent better than in 1997. That means its shares, up 38p to 269p, trade at a price equivalent to 15 times its *earnings per share*, about the same as the sector average. Yet even at 160p, the Stakis exit multiple is only 17 times, which hardly represents a generous premuim for gaining control. Yes, Ladbroke is offering a very healthy uplift compared with what the market valued Stakis pre-bid talk, but that was then. Now, in the limelight, Stakis stands stronger than was previously appreciated.

The fact that Stakis's *management* is being so well accommodated by Ladbroke makes it *much* less likely that a rival bidder — a black knight — will feel able to break up the party. David Michels is set to move from being Stakis's chief executive to head up Hilton International for Ladbroke. But with his favoured new employer unlikely to replace gaming boss Mike Smith when he joins Rank, Mr Michels will also take on the appearance of a joint chief executive alongside Peter George.

Stakis may well be worth 180p but Ladbroke is not going to overpay for the sake of it. Moreover, those Stakis shareholders who take Ladbroke shares may reap longer-term rewards by allowing themselves to be bought cheaply. Pennies saved now gives Ladbroke ammunition to tilt at Vaux, or buy on the Continent or in Asia Pacific.

The focus is *moving to Ladbroke. One way* or another, get on its share register.

Safeway

J SAINSBURY — and the much-derided John Cleese *Value to Shout About promo***tion — is attracting all the attention in the food retailing sector just now. Sainsbury's** *shares have dived 27 per* **cent since Tempus recommeded selling last October. During the same period, Safeway shares have held up better, although as the chart shows, it was down-rated earlier.**

Safeway was toot-tooting about its sales figures yesterday. It boasted about outperforming the sector for the past nine months in a row. But the figures were not all they seemed. Safeway had a disastrous Christmas before last — no sales growth in a sector up 4 per cent — so 3 per cent growth this time around represented something of a hollow victory. Its Triple Points loyalty card promotion added 2 per *cent to sales growth. But that* **was ended in October, and half of that added custom has since slipped away.**

*Yesterday's Christmas trad***ing statement did help Safeway along the long path to a restored reputation, however. As one of the City's most accident-prone companies, it was a relief to see it navigated its way through the festive sea***son without obvious trouble.* **At 12 times forecast earnings. Safeway shares are cheap. However, with the kind of competition operating in this sector — and with Tesco and Asda more attractive agressors — they may stay that way. And it shows how far Sainsbury's recovery hopes have to go.**

Avoid both for now.

FALLEN FROM GRACE
FTSE all-share index (rebased)
Safeway share price
420p 400 380 360 340 320 300 280 260 240
Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb
Source: Datastream

PizzaExpress

IT IS astonishing to think that we will soon be able to eat in PizzaExpress from Manchester to Moscow, To*kyo to Tunbridge Wells and* Wimbledon to Warsaw. All this from the London-born company that, as recently as 1985, *thought opening a res*taurant in Bristol was racy.

Not only that but PizzaExpress has barely changed the *formula that has been pull*ing in the punters since 1965. Apart from the occasional bow to local tastes — Moscow *has a caviar pizza, for in*stance — the concept remains largely as its founder, Peter Boizot, envisaged. Here you find a good quality, value-for-money menu served in stylish surroundings.

The formula has proved consistently profitable in the six years since PizzaExpress was floated. Yesterday's interim figures show it has not lost its touch, despite the sharp decline in consumer confidence.

True, like-for-like sales growth is down from 12 per cent a year ago to just 3 per cent. But with most competitors in negative territory that is no mean achievement. Its *continued ability to open new* units without commensurate increases in base costs means margins improved from 19.7 *per cent to 22.1 per cent*.

PizzaExpress is now developing the theme into pasta, acquiring Café Pasta last *year. David Page, the chair*man, leads a strong management team and even at a chunky 24 times predicted full-year earnings, this is an appetising formula. Buy.

Vickers

PAUL BUYSSE, chief executive of Vickers since last summer, has taken strides to refocus the engineer that famously sold Rolls-Royce Motor Cars to Volkswagen last year. But is he focusing on anything worth getting excited about?

The stock market's answer is decidedly negative. With Vickers shares trading at 149.5p, the prospective p/e ra*tio is only about eight times* — assuming Vickers makes 18p per share this year.

The continuing importance *of defence contracting does* not enhance the attractions of Vickers, especially in the absence of bid interest. But the *unpopularity stems more* from its hefty exposure to the long-suffering petroleum industry. Once amalgamated *with Ulstein, the Norwegian* marine engineer being bought for £350 million, about half of the Vickers ma*rine sales will come from the* oil and gas industries. The marine operations are expected to account for at least 60 per cent of total sales.

It is too early to write off Mr Buysse's efforts, and he may get big help if the oil price recovers. But the only obvious reason for holding the shares now is for the 6 per cent gross dividend income.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Mar	897-896	May	1000 BID
May	898-897	Jul	..... unq
Jul	917-916	Sep	
Sep	935-934	Dec	1058 SLR
Dec	962-960		
Mar	985-983		Volume: 9682

ROBUSTA COFFEE

Mar	1718-1713	Nov	1610-1600
May	1648-1642	Jan	1605-1590
[illegible]			

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	10.10	-0.25
Brent 15 day (Mar)	10.40	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Apr)	10.55	-0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	11.85	-0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	12.00	-0.15

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

[illegible]

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	74.10	Mar	77.25
May	74.95	May	78.25
Jul	76.95	Sep	76.00
Sep	76.00	Nov	78.00
Nov	78.00	Jan	80.00
Volume: 117		Volume: 15	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t): [illegible]

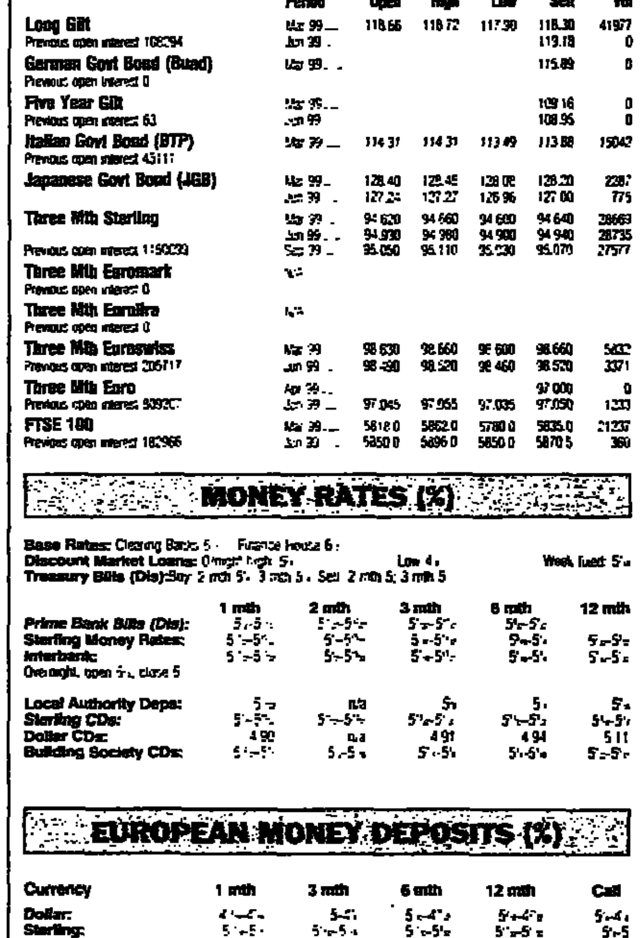
[illegible]

LIFFE OPTIONS

[illegible]

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Mar 99	118.66	118.72	117.30	118.30	41977
Previous open interest 108294	Jun 99				119.18	0
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Mar 99				115.89	0
Previous open interest 0						
Five Year Gilt	Mar 99				109.16	0
Previous open interest 63	Jun 99				108.96	0
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Mar 99	114.31	114.31	113.49	113.88	15042
Previous open interest 43117						
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Mar 99	128.40	128.45	128.08	128.20	2287
[illegible]						775
Three Mth Sterling	[illegible]					28663
						28735
						27577
Three Mth Euromark	[illegible]					
Three Mth Eurolira	[illegible]					
Three Mth Euroswiss	[illegible]					5432
						3371
Three Mth Euro	[illegible]					0
						1233
FTSE 100	[illegible]					21237
						360



MONEY RATES (%)

[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

[illegible]

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

[illegible]

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

[illegible]



DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.5290-1.5313
Canada	1.4890-1.4900
Denmark	6.6160-6.6200
Euro	1.1226-1.1236
Hong Kong	7.7487-7.7497
Japan	113.92-114.02
Malaysia	3.7999-3.8002
Norway	7.6740-7.6840
Singapore	1.6895-1.6905
Sweden	7.9090-7.9190
Switzerland	1.4246-1.4256

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6300-1.6400
Australia dollar	2.4952-2.5005
Bahrain dinar	0.6090-0.6232
Brazil real*	2.3030-2.3040
Cyprus pound	0.8300-0.8488
Euro	1.4509-1.4532
Finland markka	8.5737-8.7129
Greece drachma	462.25-472.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.6350-12.6444
India rupee	68.60-70.20
Indonesia rupiah	14167.0-14767.0
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4885-0.4999
Malaysia ringgit	6.1961-6.2004
New Zealand dollar	2.9095-2.9150
Pakistan rupee	78.55 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8800-6.0174
Singapore dollar	2.7552-2.7586
S Africa rand (com)	9.6410-9.8598
U A E dirham	5.9325-6.0711

Barclays Treasury * Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	1,655	Land Secs	1,014
ASDA Gp	10,146	Legal & Gn	1,414
Abbey Ntl	1,768	Lloyds TSB	10,208
Allnce & Leic	1,119	LucasVarity	3,727
Allied Dom	5,147	Marks Spr	5,713
Allied Zrch	4,123	Nat Grid	3,776
Amvescap	1,792	Nat Power	5,866
AB Foods	351	NatWst Bk	2,699
Bk of Scot	3,655	Norwich Un	1,843
BAA	1,650	Orange	8,810
Barclays	2,332	P & O	2,651
Bass	1,622	Pearson	1,577
BG	6,646	PowerGen	1,510
Billiton	16,436	Prudential	5,350
BOC	560	Railtrack	1,212
Boots	1,826	Reckitt Col	3,948
BP Amoco	17,769	Reed Intl	2,554
BAe	5,769	Rentokil	2,981
BA	6,153	Reuters	3,539
[illegible]			

WALL STREET

[illegible]



Bold 'Anglo Saxon' central banks put Europe to shame

Monetary policy in Europe is still living in the pre-Keynesian Dark Ages

BRITAIN AND AMERICA HAVE TACKLED UNEMPLOYMENT AFTER CURBING INFLATION...

UNITED STATES
Unemployment
Consumer Price Index* (all items)
Consumer Price Index* (excluding food and energy)
GDP deflator*
1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

BRITAIN
Unemployment
Retail Price Index* (excluding mortgage interest)
EU harmonised price index*
GDP deflator*
1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998
0 2 4 6 8 10 11

...SO WHY DOESN'T EUROPE DO THE SAME?

GERMANY
Unemployment
Consumer Price Index*
EU harmonised price index*
GDP deflator*
1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998
0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14

FRANCE
Unemployment
Consumer Price Index*
GDP deflator*
1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998
0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14

* annual per cent change
Source: Datastream

Last week's bold cut in interest rates by the Bank of England was as welcome as it was unexpected. It was welcome not only for the obvious reason that it should help to silence the prophets of doom who had been predicting a recession that was never likely to happen, thereby doing unnecessary damage to business confidence and consumer demand. There are two other, more subtle, reasons for welcoming the boldness of the Bank.

First, the seemingly perverse reaction of the currency markets, which pushed sterling sharply higher after the dramatic rate should help to inject some realism among the many British industrialists who still seem to believe that all of their difficulties can be blamed on the "overvalued" pound, a strictly temporary problem, which the Government could easily resolve by announcing a decision to join the single currency. Secondly, the Bank's explicit determination to stimulate economic growth (in theory to guard against the danger of excessively *low* inflation) should emphasise the contrast between the shambles of European and Japanese central banking and the successful "Anglo Saxon" model of monetary policy gradually developed in America and Britain over the past decade. The essential difference between these approaches can be summarised in a few sentences. In Britain and America (as well as in Canada, Australia and a growing number of smaller countries) monetary policy is used boldly and more or less explicitly to control both inflation and unemployment by flexibly managing demand. In Europe, by contrast, central bankers are still living in the pre-Keynesian Dark Ages. Any suggestion that monetary policy should be used to stimulate growth and reduce unemployment is a heresy punishable by economic excommunication or even political death.

Consider first the question of the "overvalued" pound. With every month that goes by, the evidence keeps mounting that the pound's present value is not just some kind of temporary aberration, attributable to exceptionally high interest rates, short-term worries about the euro or irrational enthusiasm about Britain's economic prospects. In the past two years, British interest rates have fallen by two percentage points relative to the German level, yet sterling has scarcely budged. Waves of euro-phoria and euro-pessimism have come and gone, but the pound has been little affected. Consensus views about Britain's economic performance have ranged from the Jeremias from the City in 1997 about a return of Britain's "inflationary nightmares" to last year's equally ludicrous warnings from the CBI surveys that industrial conditions were worse today than in the recessions of 1980-81 and 1991-92. But amid all this sound and fury, the pound has remained firmly entrenched in its trading ranges of \$1.60 to \$1.70 and DM2.65 to DM3.05.

The fact is that the pound has not been particularly overvalued or even especially "strong" in the past two years. It has simply recovered to around its average level of the previous two decades from the unsustainably low level to which it fell in 1994 and 1995, when the mark and other European currencies temporarily shot off into the stratosphere as a direct result of the monetary incompetence of the Bundesbank. Looking at Britain's competitive position in the global economy, the pound has, since 1997 been hovering around the level required to ensure that British exporters and importers can maintain a rough balance of trade. The current account deficit of about £10 billion which most forecasters expect for Britain in 1999 is about as close to balance as can be expected, once due allowance is made for the contrast between Britain's robust domestic economy and the depressed economic conditions in Europe and Asia.

The issue can be put in more direct policy terms. The pound is now bang in the middle of the range of DM2.65 and DM3.05 in which it has fluctuated for over two years. Why, then, should anyone assume that the conversion rate if and when Britain joins the economic and monetary union will be significantly lower than the present DM2.84? On balance, it seems reasonable to conclude that if Britain were to join the single currency, at least in the foreseeable future, the exchange rate would have to be very similar to the one that prevails today.

This thought alone may be enough to deter some of the British businessmen who seem to support monetary union for crude reasons of short-term currency tactics (many of these are the same people who wanted to join the exchange-rate mechanism in 1990 because it would allow an immediate reduction in British interest rates). But last week's bold action by the Bank of England also underlined a much more important strategic and philosophical issue. To call this issue politically explosive would not be an overstatement, which is why it ought to be debated now, before it is too late, by politicians and commentators not only in Britain and America, but also in Germany, France and the rest of Europe. This issue is, to put it bluntly, the irrational and potentially illegal behaviour of the European Central Bank.

What I mean by irrationality should be clear to anyone who studies economic statistics or simply looks at the charts above. The ECB's main legal responsibility, as defined by the Maastricht treaty is to "maintain price stability". The ECB's main predecessors, the Bundesbank and the Banque de France, had exactly the same goals. But price stability was achieved in Germany and France more than five years ago. So why on earth has the ECB, along with its predecessor institutions, continued to pursue a deflationary monetary policy which has kept European unemployment at or near postwar record levels?

The standard answers offered by critics of European central banking have been excessive caution, stubborness, dogmatism, incompetence, pride and so on. But in the past few weeks, some of the critics of the ECB have begun to toy with an even more explosive accusation. Perhaps it can be argued that the ECB is not just acting irrationally or incompetently in ignoring the interests of Europe's jobless; perhaps it is actually breaking the law.

The Maastricht treaty defines the duties of the ECB as follows: "The primary objective of the ECB shall be to maintain price stability. Without prejudice to the objective of price stability, the ECB shall support the general economic policies in the Community with a view to the achievement of the objectives of the Community as laid down in Article 2." Among the objectives laid down in Article 2 are "a harmonious and balanced development of economic activities", "sustainable and non-inflationary growth" and "a high level of employment". In other words, once price stability is attained, it appears that the ECB may be legally bound to observe the instructions of the European political leaders and finance ministers regarding support for their "general economic policies". And there can be no doubt at all that the ECB is legally obliged to pursue a policy that will maintain sustainable growth and a "high level of employment", provided this policy is consistent with the primary mandate for price stability.

Until recently, nobody would have dreamt of paying much attention to the legal niceties of the ECB's legal mandate. But in the past few days, three developments have occurred which suggest that this indifference may be about to change.

The first such development was mentioned in this column last week. It is the growing pressure from America for the ECB to pursue a monetary policy explicitly designed to boost European demand. This pressure is almost certain to grow in the months ahead. The second development is much more important. It is the transformation of political attitudes to monetary policy within Europe. This was most clearly exemplified by a small story in yesterday's *Financial Times*. The story reported an attack on the ECB by an official from the German Ministry of Finance, Stefan Collignon, head of the directorate of European affairs. Herr Collignon explicitly stated that "the ECB is obliged under law to support economic growth after it met its primary objective of price stability".

Until recently European central bankers have had a standard answer to such admonitions. They simply claim that any effort to promote growth and employment through monetary policy would be in conflict with the price stability goal. But this brings uis to the third and most important recent development: the success of the Bank of England and the US Federal Reserve in maintaining price stability and simultaneously using monetary policy to ensure adequate growth and full employment. If the Anglo Saxon central banks continue to succeeed in combining both inflation and growth objectives, the ECB's single-minded obsession with inflation and contempt for growth and employment objectives will stand exposed. The ECB will be rightly accused not only of incompetence but of breaking the law.

Now that President Clinton's trial is almost over, perhaps it is time for some impeachment in Europe. Step forward into the dock, Wim Duisenberg.

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Gwyneth Paltrow and Joseph Fiennes in the recently released film *Shakespeare in Love*

Mobiles herald the onset of the pre-pay plastic revolution

What is the biggest marketing success story of the past year? Piaggio scooters? Sony PlayStation? The re-emergence of Terry Venables as a candidate for England football coach? The answer is that nothing in the marketplace can compare with the success of pre-paid mobile phones.

In the three months before Christmas, 2.5 million new customers were signed by the big four mobile companies. To put this in perspective, this is by far the best quarter for mobile phone growth in the UK and represents nearly £500 million worth of new business.

All enjoyed a bumper harvest of new customers, though the happiest will be Vodafone and Cellnet, which were able to regain some of the momentum they had lost to the newer market players — One-2-One and Orange, which had used "image marketing" to great effect, the former signing up Ian Wright, Chris Evans and Kate Moss and the latter through arts sponsorship.

The success of these "pay as you talk" initiatives has encouraged quite a few firms to take a fresh view of the prepay market. Typically, this has been seen as a downmarket, rather unpromising area, which involved selling stamps that people collected to pay off their gas bill or TV licence. However, some companies, such as Park Foods, have enjoyed success with savings clubs, in Park's case persuading customers to put something by each month to pay towards a Christmas hamper or some jewellery. Park makes money by not only selling the goods, but also through the interest on the money it has collected up front.

Now these market segments are lucrative, but limited. They work largely by persuading people on low incomes that it is wise to budget for expensive items by putting a little cash away when they have some spare. These people would be better served by opening a building society account so they received the interest — not Park Foods and British Gas. But this is an issue for the banks, which have been criticised by the Office of Fair Trading for not reaching out to the poorest parts of society.

The pre-pay phones are similar, but crucially different. The similarity is that they are aimed at customers that the mobile phone companies could not win before because either the customers could not obtain credit — because they were too poor, too young or had a bad payment history — or the customers did not want to take on onerous contracts for a mobile phone. With prepay there is no contract. You buy the phone and then you buy a card that gives you anything up to £100 worth of call credits.

JASON NISSE

At this point there is a little bit of science — which is where pre-pay phones differ from what has gone on in the past and show the way forward. To have enough security in the card to carry quite a lot of



money, and also to allow some of the clever ways of loading up the card with extra credits, such as data sent down a phone line, the companies have been using chip cards. Until quite recently these were too expensive to be used widely, but now they cost about £1.50 each to make.

According to Heiko Haasler, market analyst for De La Rue, which makes these cards, the price point is crucial. Banks, supermarkets, utility firms and the like can afford to give away chip cards as a marketing tool, when previously the cost might have been prohibitive. Customers who can obtain credit can use these cards for small-value transactions, rather than carrying cash. Customers who cannot obtain credit can use them as if they were a credit card. With the growth of e-commerce, this will be increasingly useful as, for example, a teenage Internet junkie cannot buy the latest computer game over the Net as he or she doesn't have a credit card. But if they have a pre-pay card, they can load it up with pocket money and use it for Internet transactions.

Card transactions, rather than those undertaken with cash or cheques, give the issuer of the card all sorts of valuable information about the customer's spending habits, which can be handed on to the direct marketing department. Expect to see everyone from Tesco to London Transport issuing pre-paid cards in the near future. The revolution will be thin, rectangular and plastic.

□ The success of *Shakespeare in Love*, the mushy movie starring Joseph Fiennes as a playwright with writer's block and Gwyneth Paltrow as a cross-dressing aristocrat, has be largely attributed to Americans becoming misty-eyed about the Bard. Indeed, had it not been for an American, the late Sam Wanamaker, the actor and film-maker, Shakespeare's Globe theatre would not have been saved.

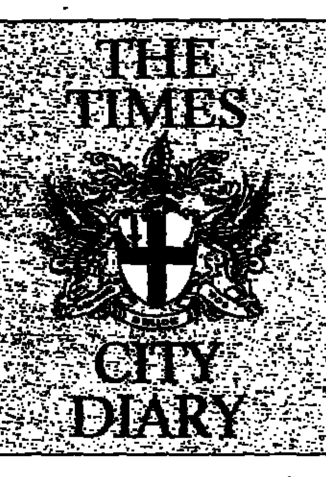
Now it seems some more Yanks, egged on by the Fiennes fare at the cinema, are putting their backing behind the Globe: American Express in fact, which is sponsorsing the theatre to the tune of £175,000.

However, this generosity has caused a slight problem. Unlike Ford, Panasonic and UBS, which have sponsored plays (UBS, appropriately given its management upheavals, backing *Julius Caesar*), Amex is putting the money into the infrastructure. However, having a sponsor's name on the theatre would not really be in keeping with the 16th century image of the Globe.

The answer is for Amex to sponsor a new exhibition in the undercroft, dedicated to Shakespeare and with American Express emblazoned prominently in the entrance area.

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Sons also rise



RICHARD BUDGE is a man of action. Faced with the collapsing share price at RJB Mining, he has decided to strengthen his management team.

Step forward a new director of mining services. He is only 27 but part of his job will be to "ensure RJB remains a leading player on the world mining scene". Then there is the new opencast director, heading up all the company's considerable opencast operations. He is a shade older at 29.

These two high achievers have one thing in common. Yes, you've guessed it. Grant and Kurt Budge are sons of the chief executive. Still, he could have appointed his brother, Tony, who has not been been around since his engineering group collapsed a couple of years ago.

FOLLOWING on from the strange symbol run by this column a few weeks ago — which was revealed as the signature of the company secretary at Carlton — Below is another odd imprint. This is the signature of person whose views will shape the new Europe. Who is he and what does this strange device say about him? Answers at the end of the column.



Scrawl over: which powerful European does this signature belong to?

Hello campers

TO THE Oaklands Hotel in Weaverham, Cheshire, where on March 10 Eurocamp shareholders will be asked to approve a name change to the tautological Holidaybreak. Readers will remember that Eurocamp's previous attempt to change its name — to Holidaymaker — was thwarted by Airtours, which has that as a trade name. However, I think it is tempting fate for Eurocamp to hold this meeting only a few miles from the home of Airtours's boss David Crosland.

Sheepish

I KNOW where I will be, this Thursday, and that is on London Bridge, watching Peter Moore herd a sheep called Ramrod from Southwark into the City. Mr Moore is better known as the Town Cryer of Southwark, Docklands and most of London — apart from the City, that is. However, the City attempted to make amends last year by granting him the Freedom of the City. This honour bestows the right to herd sheep across London Bridge. So he has borrowed Ramrod from a brewery in Wandsworth and is ready to exercise this right.

DAVID MICHELS has a fair bit on his plate as chief executive of Hilton International, not the least of which is what to call the combined Hilton/Stakis hotel business in the UK. Yesterday Mr Michels said that although the new name would be "Hilton something, or something Hilton", for the time being he would be using the working title "Lakis". I think I prefer the name "Stilton".

Sour taste

MY CONGRATULATIONS to the Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Stock Exchange for selecting HP Bulmer, the cidermaker, for producing, along with Boots, the best annual report and accounts last year.

Richard Sykes, the chairman of the judges, commended Bulmers on "an outstanding example of corporate reporting". Shareholders, though, might wish that the Bulmers's management had not been quite so good at reporting the company's woes. The shares are amongst the biggest dogs on the market, currently languishing at a seven-year low.

Moran more

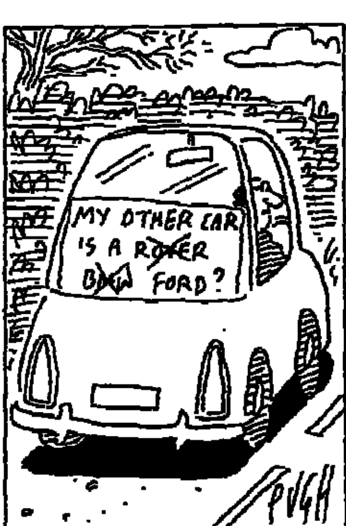
CONGRATULATIONS are also due to the House of Lords, which has ruled against the controversial financier, Christopher Moran, in a dispute about an office block in Gray's Inn Road. The details are extremely complex and were in a law report run in this paper last Friday, but the upshot is that Mr Moran is having to pay a small public company called Stratagem about £1.5 million.

I call Mr Moran to ask him how much of a blow this ruling is to his empire and his project to rebuild Crosby Hall on the banks of the Thames in Chelsea. "A mere dent," he tells me. "My business is in rude health."

AND the answer to the signature teaser is that Lawrence Warner, a graphologist, ran an instant blind test and concluded: "This seems to be an assertive person who likes to have the last word. He knows a lot of answers but might not always let on to other people what they are or let on much about himself." Which seems to be what everyone feared about Wim Duisenberg, President of the European Central Bank, whose signature it is.

JASON NISSÉ

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Good News for NatWest Customers

NatWest announces the following reduction in interest rates.

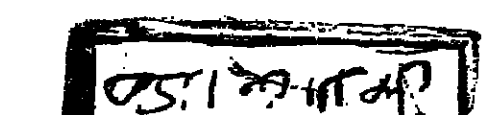
Effective from (and including) 1 March 1999

Old Annual Nominal Rate	Old EAR (overdrafts only)	Personal Lending	New Annual Nominal Rate	New EAR (overdrafts only)
		All interest rates applicable to Tailored Loans will be reduced by 0.50%		
8.75%	9.10%	Advantage Premier Overdraft	8.25%	8.56%
8.50%	N/A	Advantage Premier Loan	8.00%	N/A
10.75%	11.29%	Gold Plus	10.25%	10.74%
10.75%	11.29%	Premium Unsecured	10.25%	10.74%
9.75%	10.19%	Premium Secured	9.25%	9.65%
15.50%	16.64%	Special Unsecured	15.00%	16.07%
10.75%	N/A	Bridging Loan	10.25%	N/A
8.50%	N/A	MBA Loan	8.00%	N/A

All regulated consumer credit agreements are varied accordingly.

NatWest

National Westminster Bank Plc, 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP



Modest losses at the close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

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The world needs more dreamers

CERRUTI IMAGE

هكذا من الاصل

GALLERIES
Hayward pays homage to Patrick Caulfield
PAGE 33

THE TIMES
ARTS

DANCE
A steamy, sleazy Carmen for our times
PAGE 34



The brother and sister of all wars

THEATRE
Celaine
Hampstead

Have you seen the bumper-sticker, "Insanity is inherited, you get it from your children"? That would make a nice epigraph for the opening contribution to the ten-week, five-work season which, with excessive modesty, Hampstead Theatre calls "a small drop of ink". I could cite you many plays since the 1950s which have accused parents of tyranny and oppression. It is refreshing to find a lively piece by an unknown writer, Matt Parker, which concedes that the jackboot can be on the other foot.

It is not just that Lee Oakes's gangling, gormless Craig has been playing truant in his GCSE year in order to have a secret affair with some rich, spoilt bitch and, now that she has rejected him, spends his time glumly slouching about or calling his unemployed dad a pathetic loser. That is mild stuff beside the problem posed by his sister, Jackie Morrison's Celaine. She has shut herself up in her bedroom for the past six years, communicating only by cryptic notes and thumps on the inside of her door — and ruling the house as if she were a Chinese empress and the sad little kitchen-cum-living-room below the Forbidden City.

At first Celaine is content simply to send back trays of food on the pretext that her mother hasn't washed her hands, or to fling hot water in the long-suffering woman's face. But then she speaks, and begins to talk of ending her isolation, sending the family into spirals of sympathetic zeal. Paul Copley's mild-mannered Dad, outrageously accused of neglect by the daughter who has rejected him, launches into the sort of frantic display of self-abasement one associates with Mao's victims. And soon he and Alison Fiske's dim, homely Mum are throwing out possessions, plastering up power-points, boarding up windows, stripping off wallpaper and pulling up carpets, all in obedience to the bonkers bird self-caged upstairs.

Parker says in the programme that this was "inspired by real events" and reveals in the play that Celaine was the victim of school bullies and has been unsuccessfully treated by the shrinks. But that hardly seems to explain behaviour that, on both her parents' and her own side, seems more than a mite extreme. Maybe the play is stylistically akin to Kopit's *Oh Dad, Poor Dad*, about a vulture-mother who keeps a dead husband on a hook in the closet, or Giles Cooper's spoof of adult infantilism, *Happy Families*. Maybe we should see it as a satire on the lengths to which parents will go to appease difficult children.

Edward Hall's production left me happy to do just that, although there are aspects of the play that worry me. The author eventually loses interest in Craig, making it hard to understand why he is behaving like a crazed hermit one moment and making ultimate sacrifices for Celaine the next. Celaine's long last speech is more credible when it is imaginatively rambling than when it is suggesting that she feels love for her beleaguered family. The symbolism — that dredger in the muddy estuary outside, that evil-looking eel Dad catches on his rod — seems over-emphatic. Still, here's a new author with an original take on family politics and a new play with genuine bite.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

MARILYN KINGWILL



Some mothers do 'ave 'em: Celaine (Jackie Morrison) lends a hand in the continuing persecution of her mother (Alison Fiske) in Matt Parker's *Celaine*

CONCERTS: A thousand unnatural shocks; Barenboim back on the piano stool; Grisey's ghosts remembered; moving spirit of jazz

A multicultural marathon

Roots Day
Festival Hall

If I were Guillaume de Machaut, pride and glory of 14th-century France, I wouldn't know what had hit me on Saturday night. First, my *Messe de Nostre Dame* is prised out of its liturgical context and performed in a barren space apparently known as a concert hall. Secondly, the Kyrie, Gloria and all the rest are interspersed with sounds from Islam — the breathy meanderings of the Turkish flute, familiar to whirling dervishes. The Mass is performed, what is more, in a space previously occupied by exuberant Africans, immodestly dressed, who chant, thwack drums, rub sticks, shake chests, sprawl on the floor and wave the odd leg.

In theory Serge Dorny, artistic director of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, created this concert precisely to apply shocks to the system, hurling cultures at one another and letting similarities emerge. His theme was ritual. An overlong African rainforest sampling by Zaire's Polyphony Ekonda was followed by Kent Nagano, the LPO, and the artful simplicities of Copland's *Appalachian Spring*. Then came the Machaut and Turkish flute, and the bloody tumult of *The Rite of Spring*, far removed from Copland's farmer and his bride building their nest in the Pennsylvanian hills.

Alas for Dorny, late 20th-century audiences, daily bombarded by clashing sensations, are pretty hard to provoke, especially when three intervals allow them to file away each part of the concert in different sectors of the brain. As an experiment in cultural fusion, then, not much was achieved. The marathon made much better sense as an exercise in widening audiences, pulling into the hall people drawn by the calypso, flamenco and other ethnic flings held in the foyers in the afternoon.

Was there enough to entice them back to a classical concert presented neat? At first there were doubts. Only by the end of *Appalachian Spring* did Nagano find that tender simplicity and fresh-air glow that is the work's special glory — qualities more evident, anyhow, in the original chamber version. The Machaut, performed by the Hilliard Singers with Kudsi Erguner, cried out for a smaller venue, though a modest spell was cast. But then Stravinsky's *Rite* blasted across the auditorium, the brass and woodwind lustrously savage, the details clear, the pace electric. Machaut would have been frightened to death.

GEOFF BROWN

Lion resumes his day job

Daniel Barenboim
Festival Hall

Daniel Barenboim is one of the few musicians in the world today who could accurately be described as legendary. His relatively rare appearances in this country as a conductor always generate excitement, but expectations at the Festival Hall on Sunday afternoon were even higher: this was his first London piano recital in a decade. If it marks a return to the regular solo work of which Barenboim has often talked, this will have been more than a memorable concert.

There was good news even before he had played a note: half this recital was devoted to Beethoven, a composer with whom Barenboim has always been especially associated. Here his performance of the *Pathétique* Sonata had expressive freedom, with a first movement full of little surprises but also architecturally strong. The Adagio was a deeply felt outpouring of melody, and in the finale a few fluffed notes seemed a small price to pay for such musical insights.

Barenboim's towering natural musicianship is indeed what counts. He may no longer be at the height of his pianistic powers, but few other players could still deliver a more satisfying account of Beethoven's Sonata in E major, Op 109, and certainly not in between conducting Wagner operas. Here the suspense of his spacious opening was relieved in a roller-coasting Prestissimo and a set of massive variations that mixed poetry and vigour. The finale's theme had a profound spirituality that was only heightened by its return after such daring treatment.

It was inspired programming to contrast Beethoven with the First Book of Debussy's Preludes. Barenboim was just as illuminating here, justifying his note in the programme in which he protested against the narrow "Impressionist" label, commonly applied to the composer. Not that he ignored the wash of sound called for in this music: perhaps orchestral experience has even increased his feeling for tone colour at the piano.

Opening the sequence, *Danseuses de Delphes* was remarkable for its carefully shaded sonorities, but similar care was taken over *Voiles*, characterised by whole-tone haziness, and the mysterious *La cathédrale engloutie*. Yet Barenboim proved that many of these works are about attack and articulation, and he caught the seductive warmth of *Les collines d'Anacapri* and the wit of *La danse de Puck*. He brought each of the 12 Preludes to life, none more miraculously than the etiolated *Des pas sur la neige*: it takes a great artist to maintain the mood of such introspective music while simultaneously capturing the imagination of almost 3,000 listeners.

JOHN ALLISON

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A guide to the best classical recordings in conjunction with BBC Radio 3

■ **BACH'S DOUBLE VIOLIN CONCERTO**
Reviewed by Simon Heighes

DAZZLED by his later accomplishments as a composer and organist, we forget that Bach *started out in life as a humble* fiddler. One of his sons tells us that he played with a "clean and penetrating tone" and liked to direct the orchestra from the violin rather than the harpsichord. And that's the approach taken in the latest recordings of his violin concertos on period instruments.

With clean and incisive playing the violinist Andrew Manze leads the Academy of Ancient Music in the most exhilarating performance currently available. But choosing this version doesn't mean sacrificing the joys of a warm and passionate slow movement. To recreate the kind of emotional charge which would have excited Bach's original audiences at the court of Köthen in the 1720s, Manze and second violinist Rachel Podger risk adding expressive ornamentation. Some comes from Bach himself (from his later arrangement of the concerto for two harpsichords), but what they invent themselves stands up less well to repeated listening.

But this is a performance full of fresh insights — risk-taking, mercurial and as thrilling as the news that from April it will be available at budget price.

On modern instruments, Arthur Grumiaux and Herman Krebbers with the *Solistes Romands* conducted by Arpad Gerecz offer some of the most intense delights on the market. But for sheer sustained inspiration and delving, charismatic solo playing **Jascha Heifetz** and **Emil Friedman** with **Sir Malcolm Sargent** and the **New London Symphony Orchestra** (RCA 09026 61746-2, £10.49) are still unbeatable after 30 years.

Heifetz's Bach is precise but passionate; soulful but never sentimental. As the glorious slow movement unfolds with the sensuality of a love duet, we realise that we're in the company of Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard, not Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio. But there is nothing old-fashioned about the speeds, which are dramatically propulsive and neck-and-neck with the Academy of Ancient Music. Even the middle movement lingers not a moment too long.

With superb digitally remastered sound and one of the world's greatest violinists, it is time this classic performance was rediscovered by a new generation of listeners.

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Next Saturday on Radio 3 (11am): Mendelssohn's Octet

Spiritual cry for help

CBSO/Oramo
Birmingham

When you listen now to Bernd Alois Zimmermann's Trumpet Concerto 45 years after it was written, it is impossible to hear it just for itself. You simply cannot forget that the composer of *Nobody Knows de Trouble I See* (its alternative title) was to kill himself 16 years later — which makes the gradual unfolding of the spiritual on which it is based all the more poignant.

It is also with the benefit of hindsight that we can appreciate the work for its extraordinary anticipation of later developments, in its appropriation of sounds and techniques associated with jazz trumpeters such as Charlie Parker and Miles Davis. Admiration for Zimmermann's courage in doing that tends to draw attention away from the fact that his mixture of New York bebop and Darmstadt serialism is not entirely convincing.

However, with a trumpeter such as Hakan Hardenberger working alongside a sympathetic conductor like Sakari Oramo, stylistic integration is not a problem. Hardenberger's focused sound, his command of the finest nuances of colour, his apparently effortless ease at the extremes of the range, his awareness of the line rather than his own star situation, all draw the ear into the emotional inspiration of a work which, now, seems like the beginning of a cry for help.

The other two works in the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra's concert in Symphony Hall, both of them somewhat laboured in interpretation, were Mozart's little G minor Symphony No 25, K183, and Tchaikovsky's Fifth in E minor. Oramo's pacing of the Tchaikovsky was only marginally on the slow side and it did have its advantages — in emphasising the ominous intentions of the introduction, for example, and in allowing time for the phrasing of the more graceful melodies in the first and third movements. The Andante cantabile was beautifully done, but even here the spontaneous impulse was sometimes missing.

That same problem was more in evidence in the first movement, which needed a stronger expressive urge as well as a more propulsive rhythmic continuity. It was particularly acute in the finale, which is in danger of sounding ponderous if it is treated as the measured climax to a respectable symphonic construction and not allowed just a little hysteria as it reaches its disproportionate, overstated conclusion.

GERALD LARNER

Tribute to a rare talent



London Sinf/ Benjamin
Queen Elizabeth Hall

The French composer Gérard Grisey died last year, before Britain had really caught up with him. Represented occasionally in small concerts at the Institut Français and promoted by fellow composers, such as George Benjamin, his ingenious, spectral soundworld has been heard more in the music of others than his own.

If "spectral" means exploring the insides of sounds to find new sources of music, the pre-concert performance of *Accords Perdus* (*Lost Chords*) made the perfect calling card. Two horns sliding down their own gleaming twine of natural harmonics (brilliantly played by Michael Thompson and Richard Clews) formed a telling aperitif to Grisey's final work, *Four Songs for Crossing the Threshold*. It is hard not to find in these songs, all about death, a chilling premonition. There is dissolution, memory and pain in every note.

The soprano Valdine Anderson's performance of the songs had an exquisite fragile anxiety. The first song, concerning the "death of dreams", rose from disconcerting warblings of muted brass to the voice and trumpet's passionate embrace. In the second song a litany of Ancient Egyptian sarcophagi is underpinned by a microtonally dissonant harp bass — a more primitive sound is hard to imagine. Then a polyphony of pattering drums scampers towards the final song, the "death of humanity". What emerges is a tender, uneasy lullaby. The shapes and spacing are familiar, but there is a strong sense of hearing a grammar, a syntax reworked from an ancient language.

Grisey's songs were enchained by interludes of "sonic dust", creating a sense of continual music. For Pierre Boulez, the idea of continuously unfolding music is a creative dynamic. Here we heard Benjamin and the London Sinfonietta play a new version of *Sur Incises*, once a ten-minute piano piece, now a 40-minute ensemble composition. The combination of pianos, harps and marimbas promised a ravishing wash of colours, and the performers delivered it in style. The pianos, ably played by John Constable, Cathryn Edwards and Richard Lacey, may often work in rhythmic unison, but the attack of Boulez's earlier style is gone.

Strangely, Wolfgang Rihm's premiere, *Compressed Symphony*, revived that dry knockabout aesthetic of earlier decades, with its manic oboe monody and mordant string and guitar rasp.

HELEN WALLACE

Potted history of urban man

VISUAL ART: Never in thrall to any movement, the elusive Patrick Caulfield is on show at the Hayward. **Richard Cork** reports

Although people only appear a few times in Patrick Caulfield's immensely rewarding Hayward retrospective, their presence is implied in everything he has painted. The plastic chairs grouped around a circular table in his *Dining Recess* are all empty, but they seem to be waiting for guests to arrive. Nobody sits behind the desk filling half of *Inner Office*, and yet its regular occupant has probably just left for the evening. Even *Window at Night*, where an orange light discloses the emptiness of a room as bare and anonymous as an Edward Hopper interior, might at any second be invaded by a figure. We find ourselves, voyeur-like, peering in from the dark and wondering when the moment will arrive.

For the truth is that Caulfield has never shown any interest in places unfrequented by humanity. In 1964, only a year after he left the Royal College of Art, this diehard urbanite made the surprising decision to paint a panoramic *View of the Bay*. But the lyrical expanse of water saturating so much of the picture's surface is peppered with boats. Three minuscule swimmers can just be detected, sunning themselves on a diving platform. And buildings line the seafront. This is a seascape given over to holiday pleasures, and the bunting slung across the foreground confirms the festive mood.

Caulfield himself had plenty to celebrate at the time. No sooner did he emerge from the Royal College than a rash of prominent exhibitions was mounted, announcing that a fresh generation of young painters was transfusing British art with a stream of confident, often witty innovation.

But although the subjects he favoured had something in common with the consumerist brashness of Pop, the elusive Caulfield has always stood at a remove from movements. The nearest he has come to declaring his allegiance as an artist is in the 1963 *Portrait of Juan Gris*, where the blue-suited Spanish Cubist hovers on an orange ground flanked by girder-like fragments of thrusting form.

The debt he owed to Cubism at that precocious stage in his career has never been rescinded. At its most overt, the Cubist influence is declared in his enduring love of still life. Early on, he limits himself to a solitary perfume jar, marooned on a flat, striped surface. By the time he painted a tall canvas called *Pottery* in 1969, his enthusiasm for pots, plates, jugs and bowls could be restricted no longer. They crowd every available centimetre of the surface, and Caulfield's insistence on pictorial flatness means that even the most distant objects press themselves on to our vision.

However clamorous *Pottery* may seem, it is still controlled by a highly rigorous sensibility. Caulfield's characteristic black lines are reduced to defining contours alone, and this simplification lends a purged discipline to the picture. In other respects, though, the *horror vacui* in *Pottery* marks it out as an untypical work. Most of his subsequent paintings allow emptiness to take on an eloquence of its own. In *Dining Recess*, a remarkable amount of the picture is devoted to the vertical lines of a plain wooden wall. Dark grey, like the table and chairs beneath, they suggest how much Caulfield may have learnt from the austerity of Minimalism.

On the whole, however, Caulfield prefers to balance areas of plainness against passages where complication is given its head. The bareness of the lime-yellow walls in his deserted *Foyer* is offset, at one side, by a distant glimpse of a bar crammed with bottles, barrels and the whole paraphernalia of designer boozing. *Paradise Bar*, an especially delectable canvas flooded in the main with a sumptuous cherry red, explodes behind the counter into a freewheeling, fizzy interpretation of a kitsch alpine mural. Its exclamatory tints risk plunging the whole picture into garishness. But Caulfield pulls it off, largely because he knows how to pitch excess against sobriety.

This pictorial juggling act reaches a state of ideal poise in *After Lunch*, where the restaurant's shadowy interior is confined largely to two soothing shades of blue. A bow-tied waiter leans wearily on a ledge, eyelids down. All this gentle, settled torpor is challenged, however, by the bright lakeside mural inserted so subversively in the panelled wall. It is painted with virtuoso cunning, proving that Caulfield can make acrylic paint simulate the blandness of a tourist photograph. Then he adds to the stylistic melange by placing a goldfish tank in front of the mural. Rendered in a frankly cartoon-like manner, this sly homage to Matisse sets up a blatant style war at the heart of this sleepy room.



Painted in 1975, *After Lunch* announces a playful desire to mix wildly incongruous ways of seeing within a single canvas. Since then, he has developed it to an intoxicating extent. In a delirious 1980 painting called *Dining/Kitchen/Living*, he takes advantage of the room's open-plan architecture to dramatise a free-flowing interplay between different modes of depiction. At each side, the dining and living areas are handled in Caulfield's most familiar manner, halfway between the comic-book and the diagram. Between them, however, mayhem breaks out. Gaudy, retro-1950s wallpaper jumps all over the largest area. And on the foreground table, a casserole dish is painted to resemble a photographic illustration. The degree of skilled illusionism Caulfield achieves here with acrylic and brush is astounding: even close to, the casserole still looks like a collage cut from a cookery book.

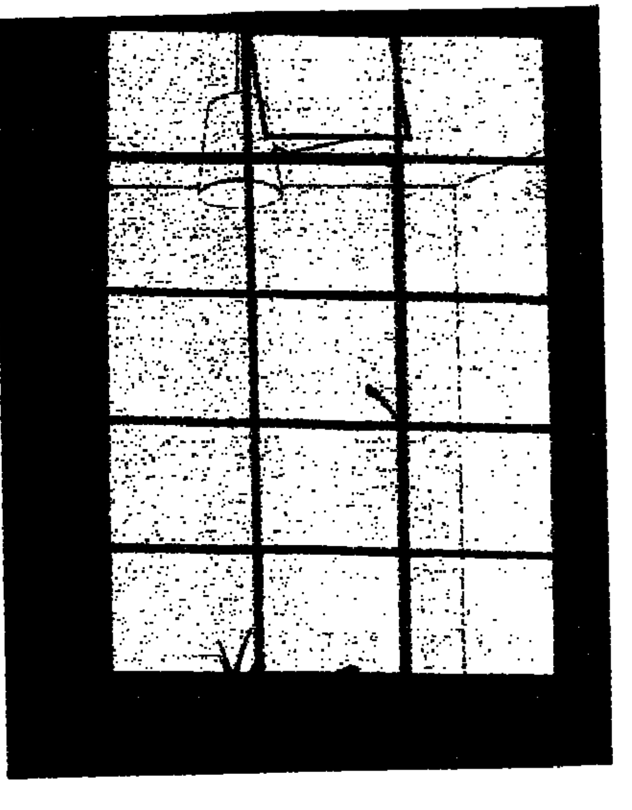
Plain and patterned: in the startling *Paradise Bar* (below), Caulfield pitches excess against sobriety, and pulls it off

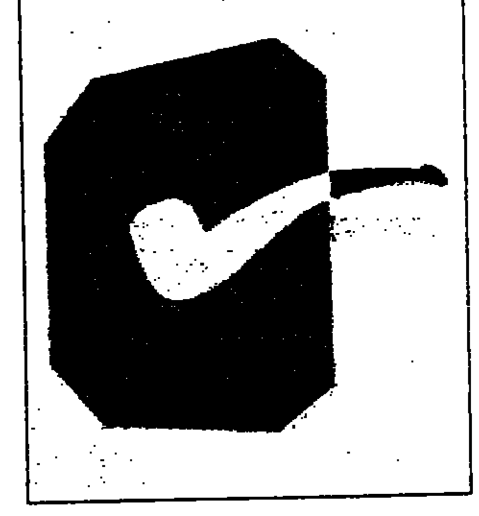
If Caulfield's work simply amounted to a series of dextrous tricks, it would not command attention for long. But as we move through this limpidly installed survey, his underlying purpose becomes clear. The spatial manipulations grow more ambiguous and provocative, daring us to find our bearings in rooms that swell, stretch and bend according to mysterious imperatives. Stylistic game-playing is still evident, for he has not lost one iota of his sly wit. But it is subservient, now, to a deepening sense of melancholy.

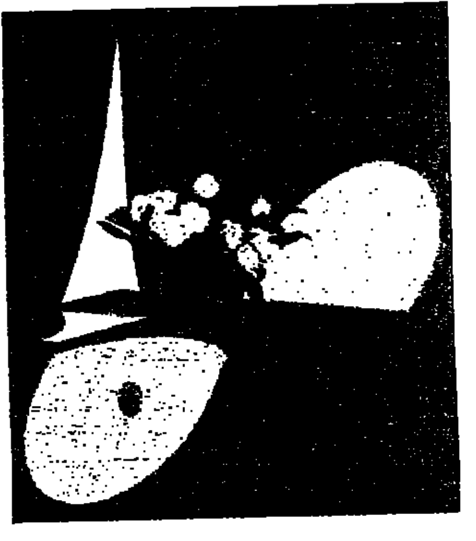
Like the waiter with the lowered lids in *After Lunch*, Caulfield seems more and more prone to a state of reverie. The overall colours deployed in a superb series of grand 1996 interiors are darker and denser than before. One painting, *Happy Hour*, sums up the mood.

Five bottles sit on a shelf near the centre. The colour of the liquid in each vessel seems to have leaked out and covered most of the canvas with a deep, wine-red stain. Segments of light flare in the dark. The room's consoling warmth is nevertheless threatened by a rectangle of hard, brilliant whiteness, where the word EXIT is inscribed on a sign. It suddenly makes the whole painting look as fragile and transient as a memento mori, as if Caulfield is acknowledging that the invitation extended by *Happy Hour* must terminate in a farewell.

● *Patrick Caulfield at the Hayward Gallery (0171-928 3144) until April 11. His print retrospective opens at the Alan Cristea Gallery, 31 Cork St, W1, today*







Left: Caulfield indulges his love of still life in the crammed canvas *Pottery*, painted in 1969. Above: *Window at Night*, from the same year, makes voyeurs of us all, waiting for a figure to enter. Right: 1990's *Pipe and Panel*. Below right: *Registry Office*, painted just two years ago, suggests Caulfield has lost none of his wit, although the colours have grown darker and denser

AROUND THE GALLERIES

Appliance of Science is an elegant, intellectual show in which a group of artists use scientific theory as a springboard for imagination. **Tacita Dean**'s film about molecular bonding may sound impenetrable but is strangely luscious with its gleaming red globules. And, as a steady mechanistic tic of flashing lights grows ever more insistent, the study accrues a sinister edge. The delicate arabesques of a silver wire in *Three Fathoms in a Thimble* are more than just graceful. **Cornelia Parker** teases with wrong-way-round ideas as the thread of a thimble is drawn through a needle's eye. **Elizabeth Wright**, with a chemist's fascination for residues, and a physicist's interest in force, drags the impossible tyre tracks of an exuberant motorcyclist across the gallery floor.
Frith Street Gallery, 59-60 Frith St, W1 (0171-494 1550) until March 18

☐ ONCE **Gwen Hardie** painted full female figures, but over the years she has focused on sections and ambiguous fragments of torsos. Her current show takes this progression to an extreme. Abstract canvases line the walls. Close up they are fields of monotonal colour, but step back and shadows drift through skins of paint. The eye chases symmetries across sensual surfaces — and then loses them. Patterns precipitate and dissolve. Hardie shows little influence of the big, brash Baselitz under whom she once studied. Eastern religions are her inspiration now.
Beaux Arts, 22 Cork St, W1 (0171-437 5799) until March 6

☐ TO TITLE a show **Men on Women, Women on Men** poses a multitude of interpretations. This battle of the sexes is rich in its range: erotic, wistful, jokey, tender, romantic, lustful and, perhaps most importantly, not too expensive. Prices range from £40 to £2,000, making this show a useful stop-off point in the run-up to St Valentine's Day.
Bankside Gallery, 48 Hopton St, SE1 (0171-928 7521) until Feb 21

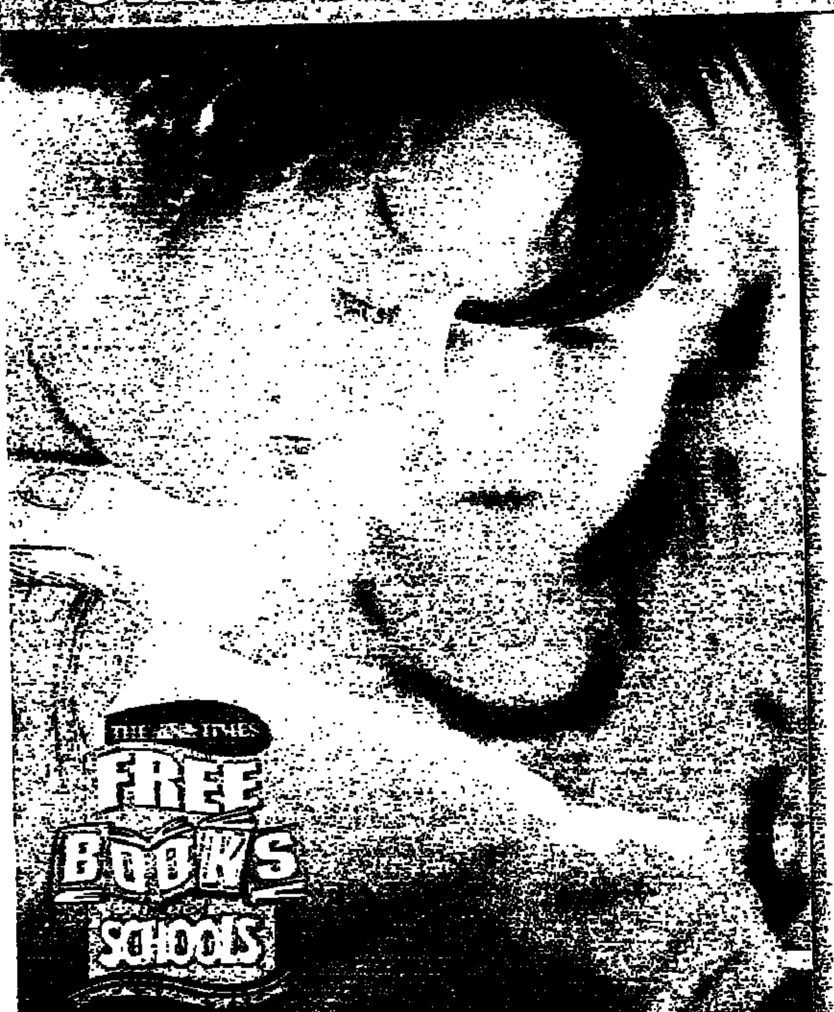
☐ CUT deep into the rocky earth, the 11 churches of Lalibela in the Ethiopian highlands enshrine the mysteries of Ancient Abyssinian faith and, supposedly, of the Knights Templar. Based in Addis Ababa for two years, **Charlie Millar** captured the atmosphere of these sacred places. A full moon floats over glittering Coptic scripts. The carbon paper Millar paints on may have started as a necessity, but it comes to characterise his art.
Gallery 27, Cork St, W1 (0171-734 7595) until Feb 13

☐ WHEN it comes to art, the word Victorian is often taken as a term of disparagement. But the 19th century was also an era of immense ingenuity and intellectual complexity, and as such it provides the inspiration for the group show **Secret Victorians**. Whaleboned dresses, waxwork effigies, stylised silhouettes and daguerrotypes may appear at first like the clutter of some fusty museum display, but preconceptions are unsettled by a sharp contemporary take. Kara Walker's black and white cutouts show disturbing racism and sly sexual deviance. Arts and Crafts wallpaper can't paper over the ugly detritus of industrial life in Jeffrey Dennis's work. Stephen Pippin harnesses the twin Victorian inventions of railway and photography by converting a train lavatory into a camera.
Ikon Gallery, Birmingham (0121-248 0708) until April 4

RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON



Children need more books



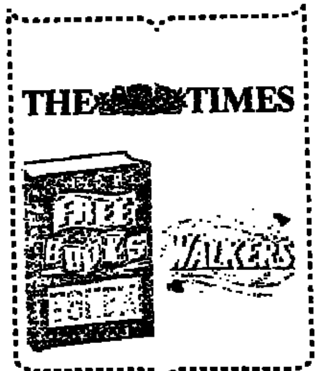
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CUT OUT THIS TOKEN NOW



■ LISTINGS
She Stoops — the musical

ARTS

■ JAZZ
Unfettered improvisation

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

LONDON

BAREFACED CHIC: Fascinating Aida play here for a month before setting off on their latest national tour. This time Clarke Peters directs.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket (0171-930 8800). Opens tonight, 7pm.

THE KISSING DANCE: The budding talents of the National Youth Music Theatre stage their latest exciting production. A musical adaptation of Oliver Goldsmith's comedy classic *She Stoops to Conquer*, the show has lyrics by Charles Hart and music by Howard Goodall.
Lyric, W6 (0181-741 8701). Opens tonight, 7.30pm.


The NYMT brings its latest show to the Lyric

ACADEMY OF ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS: As part of its 40th-anniversary season and the BBC's Sounding the Century festival, the renowned orchestra under Iona Brown performs a selection of works by 20th-century composers. The concert includes *Bartok's Divertimento*, followed by Britten and Tippett before concluding with Strauss's *Metamorphosen*.
Queen Elizabeth Hall (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.45pm.

AND THE BROTHER TOO: Eamon Morrissey returns to the inimitable comic writings of Flann O'Brien, revealing more about "Yer Man" and his curious view of the world.
Tricycle (0171-328 1000). Opens tonight, 7pm.

ELSEWHERE

LIVERPOOL: Paul Miller directs a touring production of Jonathan Harvey's uneven and quirky new play, **Hushabye Mountain**. Dead Danny enjoys the company of Judy Garland in Heaven while his boyfriend on Earth copes with the hole in his life. Until Saturday.
Everyman (0151-709 4776). Opens tonight, 8pm.

NORWICH: After a succesful tour of mainland Europe, Poland's leading opera company, the **State Opera of Wrocklaw**, takes its much-praised production of Verdi's *Aida* on a tour of Britain. Here until Saturday.
Theatre Royal (01603 630000). Opens tonight, 7.30pm.

SOUTHAMPTON: In Earth and Sky, Sam Janus plays a librarian whose boyfriend could have a sinister past, award-winning American thriller by Douglas Post. Patrick Sandford directs a touring production.
Nuffield (01703 671771). Opens tonight, 7.30pm.

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London
■ House full, returns only ◪ Some seats available □ Seats at all prices

■ **COPENHAGEN:** Heisenberg mysteriously calls on Niels Bohr in wartime Denmark. Michael Frayn's intelligent play transfers to the West End. Michael Blakemore directs.
Duchess (0171-494 5075).

□ **CERTAIN YOUNG MEN.** Peter Gill directs Jeremy Northam, Sean Chapman and six other actors in his exploration of the way today's men live.
Almeida (0171-359 4404).

□ **THE RAPE OF LUCRECE:** Thrilling staging of Shakespeare's poem by Theresa Shiban's Angelus Arts. A company of seven plus sensationally erotic music.
Union Theatre (0171-261 9876).

□ **OKLAHOMA!:** National Theatre cast includes Maureen Lipman in transfer of Trevor Nunn's Rodgers and Hammerstein.
Lyceum (0171-416 6099).

◪ **RICHARD III:** Robert Lindsay puts on the hump for Elijah Moshinsky's RSC transfer from Stratford.
Savoy (0171-836 8888).

■ **THE STREET OF CROCODILES:** Welcome return for Theatre de Complicite's inventive staging of Bruno Schulz's magical recollections of pre-Nazi Poland.
Queens (0171-494 5041).

□ **VASSA:** Sheila Hancock heads a terrific cast, playing the family matriarch in Gorky's strong drama. Howard Davies directs.
Albery (0171-369 1730).

■ **THE TEMPEST:** David Calder excellent in Adrian Noble's colourful RSC production from Stratford.
Barbican (0171-638 8891).

◪ **LITTLE MALCOLM AND HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EUNUCHS:** Ewan McGregor in the title role of a sentimentalised revival of David Halliwell's play about art-student failure and fascism.
Comedy (0171-369 1731).

□ **FOURPLAY:** Post-modern bedroom farce by Spanish dramatist Sergi Belbel. Hans-Peter Kellner directs for Mammoth productions.
Lyric Studio W6 (0181-741 8701).

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES

HIDEOUS KINKY (15): Kate Winslet plays a naive young mother who takes her two daughters on the hippie trail to Morocco in the early 1970s. Beautifully shot film by Gillies MacKinnon that is surprisingly unjudgemental. With Said Taghmaoui, Bella Riza, and Carrie Mullan.

LIVING OUT LOUD (15): Fitful romance with Holly Hunter and Danny Devito as an odd couple who meet in the elevator. Cracking performances fail to unlock the stalemate.

HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (15): Successful career woman, Angela Bassett, falls for a Jamaican toy boy (Taye Diggs). Despite the chemistry, there is nothing to this overlong holiday brochure from director Kevin Rodney Sullivan

A BUGS LIFE (U): A colony of cute, hard-working ants are terrorised by a delinquent gang of grasshoppers. Dazzling, bug-eyed perspectives from Disney and Pixar. John (Toy Story) Lasseter directs

PECKER (15): John Waters's satire on the art world lacks his usual bite but there are enough bad-taste moments to keep the humour bubbling. With Edward Furlong, Christina Ricci

CURRENT

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15). Thrilling romantic comedy with a cracking script by Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard. Gwyneth Paltrow excels as the Bard's cross-dressing muse. John Madden directs.

STEPMOM (12): Julia Roberts is the hapless new woman in Ed Harris's life, and Susan Sarandon the terminally ill ex-wife. The two spoilt kids, Jena Malone and Ian Aiken, give it a high Kleenex rating. Relentlessly sincere movie by Chris Columbus.

VERY BAD THINGS (18): Peter Berg's macabre comedy thriller satirises buddy movies and smug suburban lifestyles by chopping up half the cast. Demonic performances from Christian Slater and Cameron Diaz.

BULWORTH (18): Warren Beatty's disillusioned senator suddenly discovers a taste for telling ugly home truths. A wonderful comic spin on political manipulation

LITTLE VOICE (15): Mark Herman's wonderful version of Jim Cartwright's stage hit. Jane Horrocks sings glorious covers of torch song divas. Michael Caine, Ewan McGregor, Brenda Blethyn and Jim Broadbent sleaze around in the foreground.


STEVE FORREST/GUZELIAN

The choreographer Didy Veldman rehearses principal dancers for Northern Ballet Theatre's updated version of *Carmen*, opening later this month

Sex, drugs, rock'n'roll

And this is *Carmen*? The death of its founder has not subdued Northern Ballet Theatre, says **Allen Robertson**

Christopher Gable was a crusader. His drive and unbridled enthusiasms saved Northern Ballet Theatre from extinction. Back in 1988 he went out on stage night after night and appealed to audience members to write to their MPs, to the Arts Council, to 10 Downing Street, to anyone who might help to keep his company afloat. The force of his personality, and the force of his argument, did the trick.

"When Christopher arrived here," says the NBT's senior ballerina Jayne Regan, "we were the fourth or fifth ballet company in Britain. Today we are the No 1 dance theatre. Christopher did that. He set out to create a niche for us, a unique way of performing that is special to us."

The power of Gable's vision can be seen in the full houses, extended tours and hefty business sponsorship, plus of course a lottery scheme that is meant to provide NBT with a purpose-built home in Leeds by 2002. Gable did his job so well that even his death from cancer last October did not mark the end for NBT. Today no one doubts the company is strong enough to survive him.

"We are so successful that I am regularly forced to turn down booking offers," says NBT's executive director, Mark Skipper. "We could not dance any more performances [190 per year] than we already do. And we have built up such loyal audiences in this country that I often have to say no to invitations from abroad." In the process of all this success, NBT has even managed to balance the books. "Five years ago we had a deficit of half a million. This year it's gone."

The company's populist success has not come without drawbacks. Hits such as the perennial favourite *A Christmas Carol* or the record-breaking *Dracula* are strong on atmosphere but weak on choreography. The intense theatricality of Gable's productions has often been achieved despite, rather than in tandem with, the dancing. But now it seems as if *Carmen*, which opens a long tour in Leeds on February 22, could restore choreographic credibility to NBT.

Didy Veldman is *Carmen's* choreographer. A member of Rambert Dance Company since 1994, the Dutch-born dancer began her career in Amsterdam with the classical company Scapino. *Carmen* is her first full-length show.

Importantly, for Veldman's sense of verisimilitude, neither Carmen nor anyone else in the cast is donning pointe shoes. In fact most of the cast will be barefoot. Gable didn't much like that notion, but Veldman won the argument by repeatedly insisting that ballet shoes would not be true to the story.

"I'm trying to find a way of gelling movement together with acting, so that we don't suddenly get into 'a dance number' without understanding why that dance number is there," Veldman explains.

> 'The positive feeling of this place: that is the legacy of Christopher Gable'

"My main thing is trying to be real. Nothing is there as a gimmick. There has to be a better reason. Christopher and I have that in common. We're trying to explain to an audience why this is happening."

Veldman and Gable had begun working on the scenario more than a year ago. That's also when John Longstaff began the task of pruning and adapting Bizet's score to suit the ballet. The outcome is an updated version set somewhere in South America. "It's hot. It's now," says Veldman. "We're talking about an underworld, drugs, the mafia."

Carmen still works in a cigarette factory — because, Veldman says, everybody knows how large a role cigarettes play in the Third World's black economy. Her bullfighter has been transformed into a modern celebrity. One of the original ideas was to make him a footballer; but, in the event, he has become a rock star — rich, powerful, glamorous and involved in the sort of high-living activity that skirts the shady side of the law.

Everyone connected with *Carmen* is convinced they have a huge success in the making. Veldman modestly insists that much of this is down to the dancers. "Of course they are nervous without Christopher and they don't really know what is going to happen. It is so sad that he's gone. But, you see, he is still here. He educated all these dancers in his way. The positive feel of this place, that is him."

Nervousness and uncertainty are things Mark Skipper wants to eradicate as quickly as possible. Mindful of that other northern troupe, Scottish Ballet, which is moving into its second year without a new artistic director, Skipper wants Gable's successor in place by the end of March.

"We have winnowed the shortlist down to eight people and we are already inviting them here to talk to us, to see and meet the company. If the right person turns up, and I think they will, what's the point in waiting?"

Three weeks after *Carmen* opens NBT will be back at Sadler's Wells with *Dracula*. It is the first London visit for the company in five years, but plans are already being negotiated for *Carmen* to be seen at Sadler's Wells in 2000.

Coming to the capital is a gamble because NBT's tour funding from the Arts Council doesn't extend to London visits. Even so, Skipper believes now is the right time because the company's main sponsor, the Halifax, has agreed to advance extra money to make it viable. "Besides, the way we're looking at it, our return to London is a big step into the future. Christopher would have been so proud."

● Carmen *is at the Grand, Leeds (0113-222 6222) from Feb 22;* Dracula *is at Sadler's Wells (0171-863 8000) from Mar 17*

In the land of the free

Free jazz is undergoing something of a renaissance. In part, at least. While the homegrown version still suffers from a species of benign neglect, the American article, whether played by its few remaining pioneers — Cecil Taylor their doyen — or, as here, by second-generation practitioners such as David S. Ware, seems at last to be receiving the attention its potency and originality merit.

Saxophonist/flautist Roscoe Mitchell, most famous for his work with the Art Ensemble of Chicago, began this three-part QEH concert in duo with pianist Matthew Shipp. In two pieces, during the first of which Mitchell restricted himself to alto, but utilising both flutes and soprano in the second, he built up to invigorating climaxes from quietly exploratory beginnings, shadowed and sustained all the way by Shipp's restlessly probing piano.

Patiently and elegantly, Mitchell and Shipp created music in which textural and dynamic variation, rather than regular rhythm and predictable chord changes, provided their artistic impetus, but each piece, at its conclusion, stood satisfyingly complete.

JAZZ
Roscoe Mitchell/ David S. Ware Queen Elizabeth Hall

Shipp was also on hand for saxophonist Ware's segment of the programme, leading a rhythm section completed by bassist William Parker and drummer Susie Ibarra.

Like Mitchell, Ware has clearly been profoundly influenced by the free music of the late 1950s and 1960s that reached its apogee in Coltrane's later work. Unlike Mitchell's, however, his quartet music has relatively conventional triggers — repeated bass riffs, scrambling heads, the occasional straightforward theme — for its subsequent improvisational freedom. It is Ware's tenor sound, though, that grabs the attention: rich, almost fruity — even the tuning-up process elicited massive, ringing tones from him — it enables him to invest his music with extraordinary power and majesty, faultlessly propelled by Ibarra's supple strength and by the constant inventiveness of Shipp and Parker.

With a shortish second half involving all five musicians in fierce collective improvisation, this was a compelling, uplifting evening's music. The question, however, remains: why don't equally exhilarating UK bands — Mujician, Dreamtime, Elton Dean's various outfits — receive similar acclaim?

CHRIS PARKER

OPERA & BALLET

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DANCE

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THEATRES

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LAW


Seeking justice: Martin Cadman, whose son Bill was killed in the Lockerbie explosion, faces the cameras as he speaks to reporters

Let the people see the Lockerbie trial

There is no good legal reason to ban television coverage from inside the Dutch courtroom, say **Dan Hogan** and **Dr Paul Mason**

The BBC wants to film the forthcoming Lockerbie bomb trial in The Netherlands. As a trial and as a broadcast, this would make legal history.

Two Libyans, Ali Mohammed al-Megrahi and al-Amin Khalifa Fhima, are accused of planting the bomb that exploded on Pan Am Flight 103, on December 21, 1988. In all, 270 people died, including people on the ground in Lockerbie.

The trial, to be held under Scottish law, in a specially built courtroom, will be Britain's biggest mass-murder case. Instead of a jury, there will be three Scottish judges.

The move by the BBC represents the sternest test yet for a set of strict legal guidelines announced in 1992 by Lord Hope of Craighead, who was then Lord President, the head of the Scottish judiciary. The guidelines resulted in BBC2's pioneering documentary *The Trial*. Known as practice directions, they were specifically designed to encourage documentary and educational programmes. The directions state that they will allow "the use of TV in other cases where there would be no risk to the administration of justice".

The practice directions made it possible for TV cameras to film cases in the Court of Session and the High Court of the Justiciary, north of the border. However, TV cameras are banned from courtrooms in England and Wales under Clause 41 of the 1925 Criminal Justice Act.

Alistair Bonnington, the BBC's legal adviser in Scotland, is making a strong case to the Scottish judiciary to allow the corporation to film the Lockerbie trial. He said that had the trial been scheduled to take place in America, it would have been televised. Without TV coverage, it would be difficult for relatives to follow proceedings. Mr Bonnington said: "My view is that television is fulfilling a democratic function by providing people with the opportunity to view something which in normal circumstances would not be convenient or expedient to do so."

> 'This, in its own way, is the case of the century'

Under the practice directions, the presiding judge would still have the final word on what footage could be broadcast. Mr Bonnington said that, ideally, editorial control should belong to the BBC.

It is unclear whether the guidelines would allow "gavel to gavel" live coverage as in the O.J. Simpson and Louise Woodward trials. These state: "In view of the risks to the administration of justice, the televising of current proceedings in criminal cases at the first instance will not be permitted in any circumstances."

However, Mr Bonnington said, for the first time in the Scottish system, the case would be heard in a higher court without a jury.

That removes a huge barrier. A big problem with contemporaneous reporting is when jurors go home at night and watch TV news and the selectivity of editing skews their memory. The judges will, Mr Bonnington said, be "perfectly capable" of being above such media distractions.

Nick Catliff, the producer of *The Trial*, is working hard with the BBC to ensure that the proposed broadcasting of the Lockerbie trial goes ahead.

Mr Catliff is now a director of Lion Television, which has produced programmes such as *Trial by Jury* for the BBC, that feature real-life barristers and judges hearing a fictional criminal case.

It took two years to make *The Trial* because of complex negotiations with defence lawyers, the prosecution and the judge before consent was granted to film any of the cases featured in the series. Filming *The Trial* cost more than £180,000 an hour — six times more than covering a sporting event.

As for the Lockerbie trial, Mr Catliff added that the practice directions were strict, but workable. "This, in its own way, is the case of the century," he said. "But the same process has to be gone through, whether it is a shoplifting case or the Lockerbie bombing."

Professor Robert Black of Edinburgh University, who first proposed having the Lockerbie trial take place in a neutral third country, said: "I did an interview before Christmas with the American broadcasting company ABC and it was blithely assuming that there would be television cameras in court."

● *Dan Hogan and Dr Paul Mason are co-ordinators of the Southampton Institute Centre for Media and Justice. The issue of broadcasting in British criminal trials will be the subject of the* Cameras in the Courtroom Conference *at the Southampton Institute on Friday. For conference details phone 01703 319509 or e-mail dan.hogan@solent.ac.uk.*

When legal and judicial functions no longer mix

David Pannick QC

The judgment by his colleagues that Lord Hoffmann should not have participated in the Pinochet case, given his close connections with Amnesty International, is having an immediate impact on judicial practice. Judges are now declaring interests, however remote, before they hear cases. A recent European Commission of Human Rights decision confirms that more fundamental questions about judicial practice are posed by the concepts of independence and impartiality. Careful consideration will need to be given to whether the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, may continue to sit as a judge in the House of Lords and whether the law lords should remain members of the Upper House of Parliament.

Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights states that litigants and defendants are entitled to a fair hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal. The European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg has said that it is not sufficient that the judge is independent and impartial. It is also necessary that the judge appears so, in order to exclude any legitimate doubt on the matter.

In McGonnell v United Kingdom, the European Commission of Human Rights decided (by 25 to 5) that the Royal Court of Guernsey was not an independent and impartial tribunal within the meaning of Article 6. Mr McGonnell was refused planning permission to build a dwelling house on his land. When he appealed to the Royal Court, it was presided over by the Bailiff of Guernsey, who decides questions of law. The Commission noted that the Bailiff has other functions in Guernsey. He is President of the legislature and head of the island's administration.

The Commission found that these other functions "did not directly impinge on his judicial duties in the case" of Mr McGonnell, and that the Bailiff "spends most of his time in judicial functions". Nevertheless, the Commission concluded that "it is incompatible with the requisite appearances of independence and impartiality for a judge to have legislative and executive functions as substantial as those" carried out by the Bailiff. Those other functions meant that "his independence and impartiality are capable of appearing open to doubt". That was enough to establish a breach of Article 6. The ruling would have been applauded by Thomas Jefferson, who argued that concentrating such functions in the same hands "is precisely the definition of despotic government".

The principle in McGonnell, if upheld by the European Court, would apply similarly to the role of the Lord Chancellor when sitting as a member of the Appellate Committee of the House of Lords. He is a legislator who presides in the Upper House, and he is an important member of the executive (a minister who chairs some Cabinet committees). So even though the Lord Chancellor's other responsibilities do not directly affect the performance of his judicial functions, there are strong institutional reasons based on the principle of separation of powers for concluding that he is not independent and impartial. That argument is particularly forceful in any case concerning matters of public policy on which the Government may have a view, or any case affecting the interests of the executive: for example a revenue appeal.

As explained by Lord Eldon, Lord Chancellor at the beginning of the 19th century, there is a heavy price to pay if a Lord Chancellor is to be part of the legislature, executive and judiciary. The incumbent "must give his nights as well as his days" to the performance of the duties, and must "pursue them even in the retirement of his house, and in the privacy of his closet". The European Convention may be about to lighten the burdens of the Lord Chancellor by preventing him from exercising judicial functions.

Whether the law lords should continue to sit in Parliament is one of the topics to be considered by the Royal Commission into the future of the House of Lords, under the chairmanship of Lord Wakeham. A number of law lords sit on parliamentary committees, and speak and vote on controversial matters of policy. This mix of legislative and judicial functions has long been difficult to reconcile with a principle of separation of powers. The problems will be exacerbated when, some time in the next millennium, the Government brings into effect the Human Rights Act 1998, making Convention rights part of domestic law and so requiring judges to make their own judgment about the balance between individual rights and the interests of the State.

The Lord Chancellor and the judiciary have welcomed the Human Rights Act as bringing Convention rights home. They should recognise that the constitutional reform promoted by the Convention will include changes to their own working arrangements so that the Lord Chancellor is no longer a part-time judge and the law lords are no longer part-time politicians.

● *The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.*



The Chambers of John Goldring QC at 9 Bedford Row have the pleasure of announcing that Mr. Martin Wilson QC (formerly of 1 Serjeants Inn) will be joining chambers on 1st March 1999 as a tenant.

Mr. Wilson intends to retain his Hong Kong practice as well as receiving instructions from clients in the United Kingdom.

Chambers is also pleased to announce that Lord Bach of Lutterworth is now a door tenant.

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All enquiries to Chris Owen, Senior Clerk, 9 Bedford Row, London, WC1R 4AZ. Tel: 0171 242 3555.



SO KEEN is Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, to be rid of his tights that he donated a pair to a special legal dinner last week held to raise funds for the Labour Party. The tights, in a double frame complete with photo of the wearer, fetched £1,000. Garry Hart, the Lord Chancellor's special adviser — who was auctioneer, along with Lord Falconer of Thoroton, now Minister for the Dome — insisted that they had been handwashed so there was no "hygiene problem."

But mystery surrounded the buyer. It was none other than Valerie Davies, a partner with Norton Rose and wife of Hart, who bought the lot as a birthday present for her husband, 59 in June.

The highest price in the auction — sponsored by Dibb Lupton Alsop — was for a drawing of the Dome by Richard Rogers, signed by both Peter Mandelson and Lord Falconer. This raised £1,300.

☐ Geoff Hoon, Minister of State at the Lord Chancellor's Department, has fired a warning shot across the bows of the Law Society's Office for the Supervision of Solicitors (OSS). There have been growing calls from MPs for the profession to be stripped of the right to deal with complaints against solicitors. Asked in a written question last week by the Tory MP David Amess what steps he was taking to "monitor the OSS", Mr Hoon said that he was waiting to see the Legal Services Ombudsman Ann Abraham's next annual report. "She stated in her last annual report that though the office had made some improvements since it started operating in September 1996, there is still a long way to go," he explained. "When the Ombudsman publishes her next annual report this summer, I will consider whether any further action is necessary."

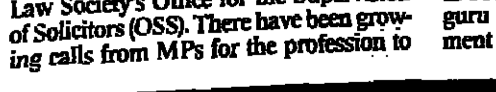
☐ David McIntosh, senior partner at Davies Arnold Cooper, has spent a lot of time recently trying to help the Law Society out of its troubles and stood for the vice-presidency last year. Now his own firm is experiencing some troubles of its own. It has just undergone a strategy shake-up and as part of the changes, at least five partners will leave.

☐ Professor Richard Susskind, techie guru and adviser to the legal establishment on all things to do with computers, has a new title: IT adviser to the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Cornhill. Susskind will speak under this title at a conference next week on the future of law and the politics of order.

Susskind is in a key position: he advised Lord Woolf on his legal reforms to the civil courts: he advises the Court Service on computerising the courts, and is now advising the judiciary, and all on a part-time salary, thought to be about £10,000. His main work is private consulting, for the likes of Clifford Chance.

☐ The Internet is increasingly useful as a disseminator of information but there are limits to its usefulness. Last month the Lord Chancellor's Department posted the long-awaited new civil procedure rules on its website. Lawyers are desperate to get their hands on the rules to prepare for the Woolf reforms. But many complain the document is so long it is almost impossible to download it. One poor technician at a set of chambers is reported to have spent an entire weekend unsuccessfully trying to print out the rules.

● *Michael Dodd, not Michael Todd, wrote last week's article on government proposals to restrict media reporting of juveniles caught up in crime.*











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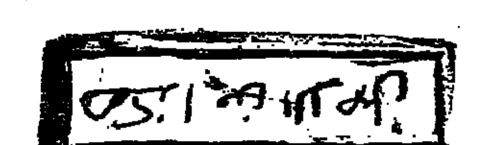
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Executive Chairman, Financial Services Authority

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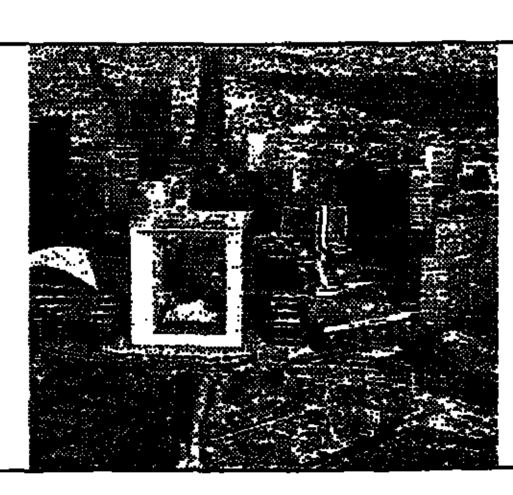
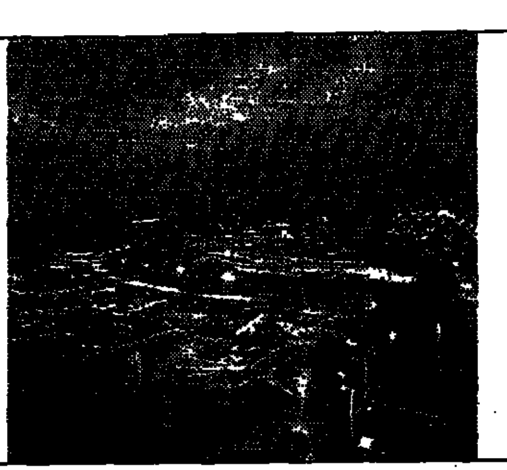


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Police go into action during a hippy protest at Stonehenge: the line may look strong but a critical lack of public confidence is damaging the force's own morale

Holding the thin blue line in place

As we await the Stephen Lawrence report, how can public confidence in the police be restored, asks **Liz Parratt**

Hundreds of individuals turn every year to the civil courts to seek redress for assault, false arrest and malicious prosecution. Between 1991 and 1995, 886 people successfully sued the Metropolitan Police, but only one officer was convicted of a criminal offence.

The Police Complaints Authority (PCA) is independent of the police, but nonetheless it relies on the police to conduct their own investigations. Of 18,314 recorded complaints in 1997, only 214 were substantiated. A "success rate" of just over 1 per cent raises the question: does the current system really work?

The inquiry into the death of the young black South Londoner, Stephen Lawrence, in a racist attack has made that question even more relevant. The inquiry's report, due to be released this month, is bound to make strong recommendations for reform of the police complaints system.

The "critical lack of public confidence" identified by the Home Affairs Select Committee is not surprising. And as Lord Colville said in 1992: "If a disciplinary system seldom if ever reaches an adverse decision, it is more likely that the system is faulty than that nobody in that profession or discipline ever makes even the most minor mistake or commits some foible. The profession or discipline loses more in efficiency and usefulness than its individual members gain by real or perceived immunity."

Calls for an independent investigation authority (IIA) are no longer heard solely from academics, lawyers, campaigners and complainants. There is an emerging consensus on this issue, which includes the select committee and the Police Federation. In response to the committee's recommendations, Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, has announced that feasibility studies will be undertaken, and that new disciplinary regulations will be introduced in April. Though the Association of Chief Police Officers' formal position is to retain existing arrangements, it has said that "if something came along that was good, persuasive and cheaper, we would not stand in its way".

The terms of the debate are shifting now from whether and why we need an IIA to how it would function. Liberty is undertaking a one-year research project, funded by the Nuffield Foundation, to identify a realistic model.

What are its essential prerequisites to ensure that it secures the confidence of both the public and the police? First, it must guarantee that police officers are accountable to the law. It must be open, accessible, efficient, thorough and fair. Clear divisions of responsibility between the system and the police will be essential. Its functions must be undertaken with the fullest understanding of discrimination and equality issues, especially race. To secure the confidence of the police, it must have due regard to issues of operational and managerial independence. It must afford police officers the full protection of the law.

These are ambitious and demanding aims. Identifying how they could best be met will require intensive research and wide consultation. One possible starting point might be the Hayes report, which formed the basis for the new arrangements in Northern Ireland, likely to be operational by June.

Under the Hayes model, complaints could be registered anywhere, and it would be for the IIA, not the police, to determine what is or is not a complaint. Judges, magistrates and lawyers would be able to refer directly to the IIA, which would also have power to intervene even in cases where no complaint had been made. Trivial matters could be taken up through informal resolution. Others could be filtered by the IIA. Some could be referred back to the police, and independent investigations could be reserved for more serious complaints, such as those potentially involving criminal conduct and those raising an issue of public interest — for example, racism or harassment. The problems of informal resolution are widely recognised, and will need to be considered. But matters suitable for informal resolution could gradually be extended if and when public confidence improved. Some issues would be easily resolved: for example, the Home Office already accepts the need to lower the standard of proof. But there are many others pending. Who should staff it? Lawyers, magistrates, journalists, Department of Social Security and Inland Revenue staff would all have the necessary skill to get at the truth and, once trained, would be able to root out malpractice. But would it be acceptable to employ former police officers? Should there be a central location, or would it need a regional office for each of the 43 police forces?

Should it be based on the quango model, governed by a panel of the great and the good, or would a different model be more appropriate?

A further issue is whether officers under investigation should be entitled to rely on their right to silence. Most employees do not have such a right, but they are not subject to independent investigation, which has a direct consequence on their employment. At present, the police service itself takes disciplinary proceedings against police officers. But the PCA has encountered difficulties where those in charge of a police force have been reluctant to take action against police officers and when forced to do so have "prosecuted" in a lacklustre way. Should an IIA also "prosecute" at disciplinary hearings, or is the separation of roles too important?

Liberty believes that an IIA must become a reality. The report of the Lawrence inquiry may yet be the decisive factor in achieving this.

● *The author is an official with Liberty.*

Rich ground for British lawyers

A boom in international law is good for London, says **Edward Fennell**

Next week Jeremy Carver, a distinguished senior partner at Clifford Chance, will receive the insignia of the CBE for services to public international law. Rarely has such an award been made before and it reflects both Mr Carver's own highly personal skills and the growing profile of this field of practice.

The increasing number of cases taken to the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the far-reaching influence of the World Trade Organisation and the growth in state-to-state arbitration have all fuelled the demand for the services of what is still a relatively small band of experts.

Mr Carver's first case, in 1969, was of a kind that has become all too familiar 30 years later. Following the takeover of Aden in Yemen by the communists, a number of Western bank staff were kidnapped. Clifford Chance, whose international credentials stretched back to representing Cecil Rhodes and his Rhodesian interests, was brought in to act on behalf of their employers. The staff were released quickly and Mr Carver embarked on a career which has presented him with a series of unique cases.

> ‘One must create order out of what is frequently chaos’

Probably the most important was the rebuilding of the International Tin Council in 1985 — a matter involving six years of work on behalf of 68 creditors and 23 states plus the European Community. "One needs to think beyond the normal restrictions of jurisdiction in order to create order out of what is frequently chaos," Mr Carver says.

Largely because of his own enthusiasm, Mr Carver has built a strong team at Clifford Chance. There is an equally substantial outfit at Herbert Smith. Allen & Overy has regular involvement in this work and so has Richards Butler, where the lead is taken by Mike Mackenzie-Smith based in Paris.

Typically Mr Mackenzie-Smith's cases involve border disputes. These have multiplied in number and complexity following the break-up of the Soviet Empire. The legal status of the Caspian Sea, for example, is a particularly hot issue because it involves not only lines on the map but, potentially, huge oil reserves and a number of rival, freshly independent countries.

Eversheds too has recently found itself plunged into these disputes by virtue of its takeover of Frere Cholmeley. Rod Bundy, an American based in the firm's Paris office includes among his regular clients the Governments of Iran and Indonesia. Mr Bundy regularly pleads (unlike his British equivalents) before the ICJ. Chief among his battle honours are the work he did in connection with the Iran-US tribunal in the wake of oil nationalisation and in the aftermath of the Tehran hostage crisis.

Campbell McLachlan, of Herbert Smith, says: "We are on the edge of an explosion in public international law and London is well placed to pick up much of the work. The importance of London as an arbitration centre, the critical mass of lawyers based here who specialise in the field and the general standing of English law should mean that we are the preferred choice for cases involving governments."

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US FIRMS/BANKS

1999 BANKING SALARY SURVEY - Taylor Root produces an annual banking salary survey which includes predictions for 1999 and the opportunities available for lawyers to work overseas and to move into different business areas within the bank. Please call Jolyon Smart for your free copy on 0171 415 2828.

US FIRMS – PARTNERS - Although the roles listed below are for assistants, numerous roles exist for partners in the areas of projects, capital markets, corporate and taxation. An entrepreneurial approach is essential in all cases. Please call Nick Root for a confidential discussion on 0171 415 2828. Evenings: 01483 860298.

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LITIGATION – *Established London office of this leading* US firm seeks additional litigator. The work is varied, international and cutting-edge. Early responsibility encouraged. City background preferred. **1-4 years**

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For further information on this small selection of positions or for a more specific and confidential discussion please call Gill Jones, Alison Port or Paul Roxburgh (practice) or Nick Hedley, Caroline Nussey or Jolyon Smart (in house) on 0171 415 2828 or write to them at: Taylor Root, 179 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4DD.
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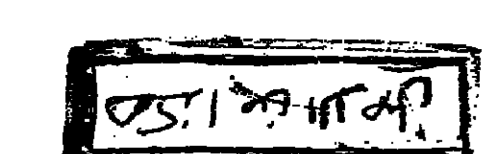
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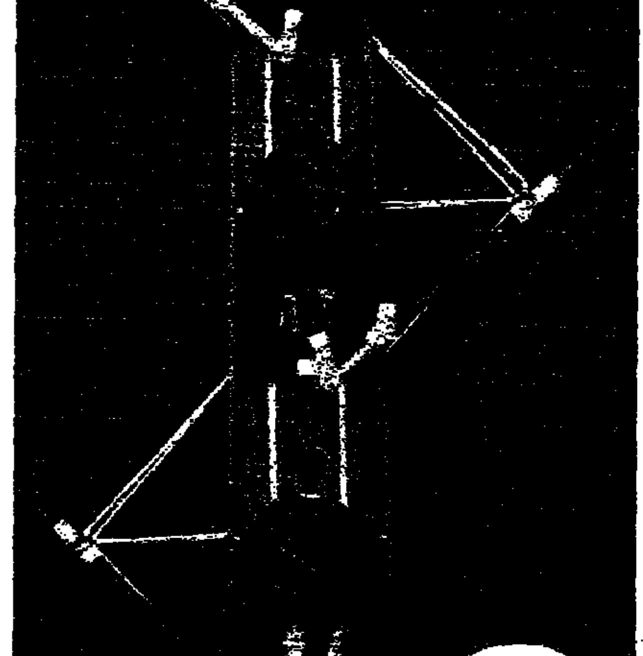
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Industry & private practice

A common mistake

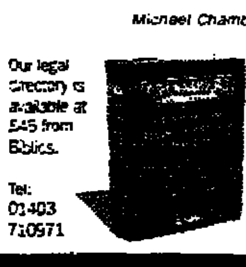
It's a common mistake. We've all made it at least once. But it is *guaranteed to kill your chances of being offered the job.*

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The general principle is to be enthusiastic about the specific vacancy and the employer you are seeing. Never imply that the work *you're doing is unrewarding in any way*. And remember that you're being interviewed because you're a lawyer. They may say they want a commercially minded lawyer to work closely with the business, but it's still your legal skills they're after. If they wanted a salesman or an administrator, they'd be interviewing someone else.

Michael Chambers



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Industry
Sonya Rayner, Morwenna Lewis, Deborah Kirkman, Stuart Morton

Property/commercial — *London*
Major construction company seeks lawyer *minimum 2 years'* pqe to handle a mixed caseload of company commercial and property work. Property development experience useful.

No 2 lawyer — *Warwickshire*
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Hi-tech contracts — *Hampshire*
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Employee benefits — *London*
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Ref: 42994 — **Claire Weston**

Construction — **1-3 yrs' pqe**
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Ref: 30699 — **James Newman**

Comm Property — **4-8 yrs' pqe**
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Ref: 24868 — **James Newman**

Corp/Banking Ptnrs — **7 yrs'+ pqe**
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Ref: 4530 — **Jessica Jay**

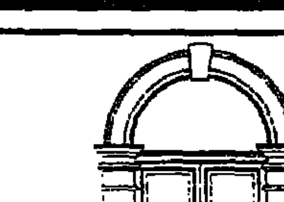
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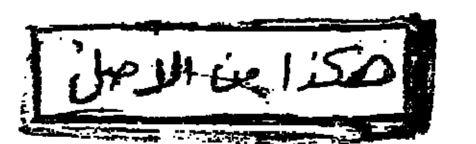
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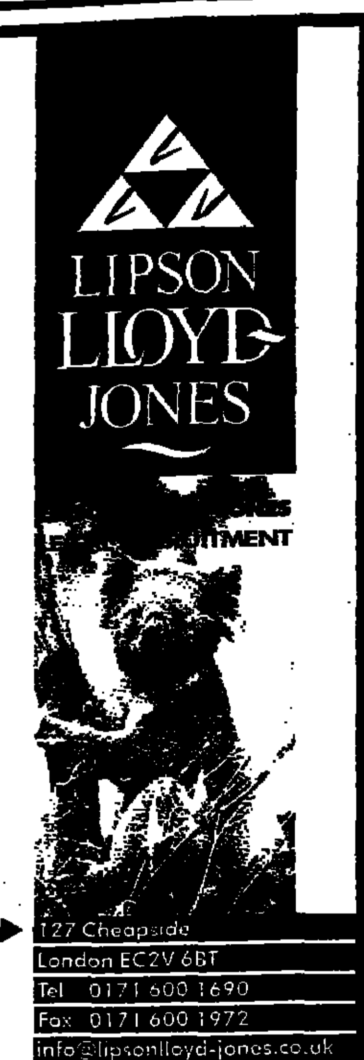
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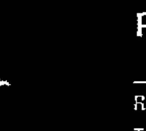
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On your head be it, my son

Was the FA on safe legal ground in sacking Glenn Hoddle? The FA has a good case, says **James Davies**

Glenn Hoddle's employment appears to have ended on agreed terms and a pay-off of £500,000, rather than an acrimonious legal battle. But what of Mr Hoddle's legal rights or those of anyone else who faces the sack because of their personal views, however unacceptable they might be to other people?

First, Mr Hoddle had the protection of his contract of employment. His right to compensation for the balance of his contract would have depended on whether or not his conduct struck at the root of the confidence that his employer, the Football Association, must have in him. It seems the FA may have taken the view that the conduct was not so serious. Otherwise, why pay Mr Hoddle such a large severance payment?

What about the fairness of the dismissal? It is possible, as the law stands, that the FA could have dismissed Mr Hoddle fairly. Another case in which an employer acted fairly in dismissing an employee for the expression of personal views concerned a ledger clerk sacked for refusing to take off what her employer regarded as potentially offensive badges supporting lesbianism. The tribunal ruled that the employer was reasonable to consider the wearing of the badges potentially offensive to customers and other employees.

Mr Hoddle had, however, expressed his views previously on BBC radio without, it seems, any warning from his bosses. He may well have concluded that such action amounted to tacit consent for his media pronouncements. This might have affected the fairness of any dismissal.

Lawrie McMenemy, the Northern Ireland football team manager, may well be in a stronger legal position than Mr Hoddle found himself. In Northern Ireland religious discrimination is outlawed under the fair employment legislation. Mr Hoddle might have argued that any dismissal because of his views on reincarnation was religious discrimination.

The episode also highlights the potential importance of the Human Rights Act 1998, which is likely to come into force next year, bringing the freedoms found in the European Convention on Human Rights firmly into UK law. Articles 9 and 10 of the Convention set out rights to freedom of thought, conscience and religion and to freedom of expression respectively. I do not know what aspects of Mr Hoddle's actions most concerned the FA, so it is difficult to assess whether his Convention rights might have been interfered with.

If Mr Hoddle's departure related to his dealings with the media over a period of time, then his Convention rights may not have been infringed. If, however, the concerns related to his religious views or his expression of them, then the position may be different. The rights under Article 9 have already been held to cover religions such as the Krishna Consciousness Movement, Jehovah Witnesses, Scientologists and even the Omkarananda and the Divine Light Zentrum which, some would argue, embrace wackier views than those espoused by Mr Hoddle, and Article 10 would cover freedom to express opinions, however objectionable.

In any event, two potential defences might have come to the FA's aid: the possible legitimate aim of the limitation of these freedoms — for example, the rights of disabled people. It is not clear, however, that it is necessary to curtail Mr Hoddle's rights to broadcast his views on karma in order to protect the rights and freedoms of disabled people.

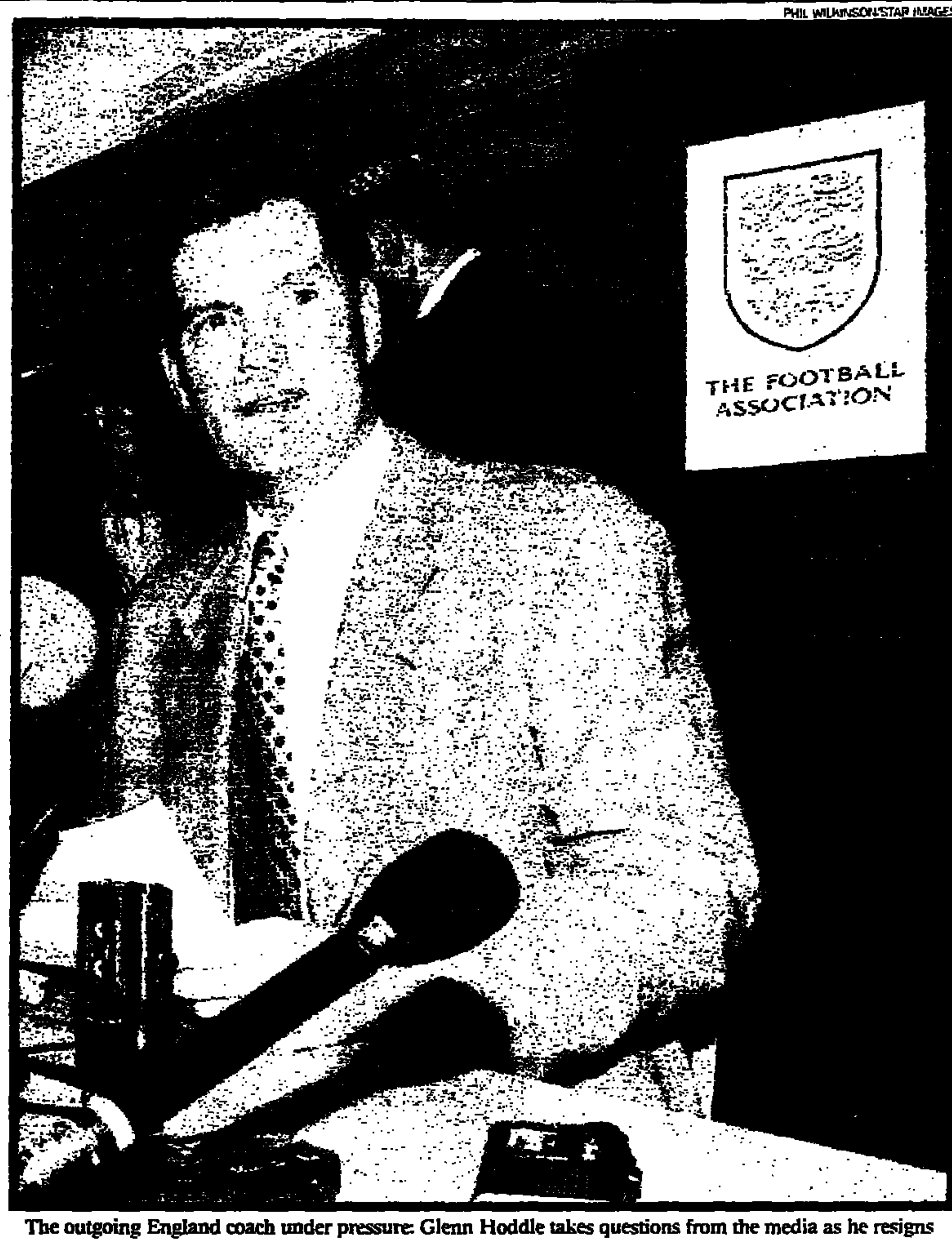
The second defence is the proportionality of any infringement of his rights. In one case a Turkish Army judge who was retired for holding unlawful fundamentalist religious opinions was held not to have had his Convention rights breached. The European Court of Human Rights considered that by embarking on a military career, he had accepted certain limitations on his freedom.

Similarly, measures to dismiss employees for expressing views incompatible with their employer's interests have been held not to conflict with Convention rights. For example, a doctor who expressed views on abortion objectionable to his Roman Catholic hospital employer was held not to have had his Convention rights infringed. On the other hand, the suspension of a German teacher on the grounds of her Communist Party activities was held to infringe her rights to freedom of expression in a case where there was no criticism of her work and membership of the party was lawful. The court found the interference with her rights to be disproportionate.

Mr Hoddle's dismissal, even if otherwise interfering with these freedoms, may nonetheless therefore be proportionate and lawful, bearing in mind the specific place the England football team holds in British hearts necessitating the trust and respect of players and public alike. Like the Catholic doctor or the Turkish judge, he could be said to have accepted limitations by accepting the job. Once respect and trust evaporated, Mr Hoddle's position became, rightly or wrongly, untenable and it is far from clear that the law, even once the Human Rights Act comes into force, could have been his saviour.

● *The author is a partner in the employment department of the London solicitors Lewis Silkin.*

PHIL WILKINSON/STAR IMAGES



The outgoing England coach under pressure: Glenn Hoddle takes questions from the media as he resigns

The FA is not offside over TV rights

Whose games are they anyway? **Simon Carne** goes for goal

The Office of Fair Trading objects to the way the FA Premier League sells the television rights to football matches. The OFT says that if any other business behaved like the Premier League, the competition authorities would intervene.

The OFT's argument, supported by Richard Prowse (Law, January 26), is that the 20 football clubs (or "businesses") that compete in the Premier League are acting as a cartel by joining together to agree on a broadcasting contract with one television company. The OFT's mistake is to think that the 20 clubs can be separated from the league and invited to negotiate their rights individually. This argument misses the point of how they derive their value.

> Clubs might then just sell their grounds

A football match between, say, Arsenal and Liverpool cannot be separated from the competition it falls within. The commercial value of such a match depends on whether it is played in the league, the cup (which cup, which round?) or a friendly, when it usually has no value at all.

If you cannot separate the matches from the tournament without destroying the economic value of the matches, there is little logic in attaching the emotive label "cartel" to describe the tournament-organising body. After all, the regulatory response to a cartel is normally to break it up. But not even the OFT wants to break up the Premier League, only its television contract.

Faced with the real question — whether the TV rights to a sporting tournament should be owned by the organising body or by the participants — it is instructive to look at what would happen if the law favoured the participants. Try to imagine Wimbledon's tennis tournament if the players, not the All England Lawn Tennis Club, owned the television rights. To satisfy the OFT, the rights would have to be broken down match by match and awarded to the two (or four)players in each one.

However, the rights would be unenforceable without access for the cameras. Is the All England Club to be forced to provide facilities for any and all broadcasters that the individual players choose to bring on to court with them? It is true that the law can be used to enforce access to private property if the property is an "essential facility" being used in an anti-competitive manner. But not even the most hawkish of competition authorities could declare the tennis courts of Wimbledon an "essential facility".

Would the position be different if the sport were football and the event was the FA Cup Final at Wembley — or the semi-finals played at other venues of the FA's choosing? Clearly not. Ownership of the TV rights would, again, be of no use to the clubs without the ability to ensure access for the TV company of their choice.

The access problem goes away only if the matches are played at venues owned by one or other of the teams. But does it make any sense at all to say that a football league's TV deal is anti-competitive if matches are played on a "home and away" basis, but not if they are on a neutral ground? And, if the court says it does, won't the clubs just sell their grounds?

● *The author is a consultant specialising in regulatory affairs.*












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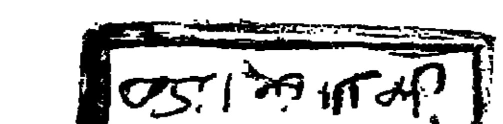
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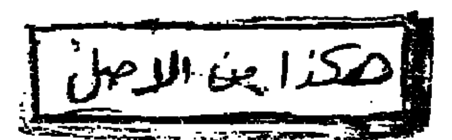
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Resolute Gough calls the tune

FROM JOHN STERN IN WELLINGTON

WELLINGTON (first day of four: England Under-19 won toss): England Under-19, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 16 runs ahead of New Zealand Under-19

ALREADY leading the three-match series 1-0 and with Michael Gough, the captain, winning an important toss on a green-looking pitch, England Under-19 took command on the first day of the second international match at Basin Reserve yesterday.

The New Zealand batsmen were disconcerted as soon as they had seen Matt Whiley seam a ball across Michael Papps, who made a century and a fifty in the first match, and knock out his off stump. By lunch they were 42 for six and, half an hour before tea, they were all out for 110, Joe Tucker taking five for 35.

Scoreboard 45

Having begun the day well, Gough ended with the upper hand, too, batting with all the good sense and resolution that watchers of Durham are coming to admire. He offered one chance, edging Hammond between first and second slip, but he remained on 65 not out at the close.

Paul Franks, the Nottinghamshire pace bowler, is to join the England A tour of Zimbabwe later this week (Thrasy Petropoulos writes). Initially, no replacement was thought to be needed for Paul Hutchison, who flew home suffering from a bulging disc in his lower back, but subsequent injuries to Melvyn Betts and Steve Harmison have left the squad's bowling resources worryingly thin.

☐ Michael Bevan, the Australia all-rounder, who was to begin a three-year contract with Sussex next season, will not now play in the county championship until 2000. He will be replaced by Michael Di Venuto, his compatriot.

India's ten-wicket hero garlanded with national acclaim

Kumble counts the price of fame

DOZENS of unopened telegrams lay strewn around the room and an ice bucket holding champagne sat on the television set next to a huge bouquet of flowers. Anil Kumble tried to sound sincere as he apologised for the state of his temporary home, but there was not a lot of sorrow in his voice.

In the hours immediately after he joined Jim Laker in taking ten wickets in a Test innings, Kumble said that the magnitude of the feat *would not sink in* until he saw the newspapers the next day. By the time those papers were delivered to the Taj Palace Hotel in Delhi he had shaken so many hands, accepted so many messages of congratulation, that the achievement could not have failed to register.

> 'I am a quiet man and I do not intend to change'

His figures of ten for 74, which helped India to a first Test win against Pakistan for 19 years, made front-page news in all parts of the country at a time when certain political parties are believed to be close to toppling the Vajpayee Government. "Words fail this headline," the banner of the *Asian Age* proclaimed in large capitals. "Pakistan Kumbled at the Kotla," the *Indian Express* opined, referring to the Ferozeshah Kotla ground where the leg-spin bowler had mown down Pakistan.

Yet it was a small, down-page story in *The Times of India* that offered a clue to the rewards that will accrue. J. H. Patel, the chief minister of Kumble's native state of Karnataka, has announced a reward of 100,000 rupees (about £1,500). In an economy in which a weekly wage of £10 equates with relative affluence, this represents an enormous sum.

Kumble, a graduate in mechanical engineering from the University of Bangalore, understands that fame carries a price. He has witnessed at first hand the restrictions imposed upon Sachin Tendulkar by the demands of fandom and he has no desire to be on that level of superstardom.

"I pity Sachin, but that is what you have to put up with in India," Kumble, 28, said. "Basically I am a quiet, down-to-earth man and I do not intend to change. I can still have my private life. Sachin will still be the biggest player in our cricket. I think the children will still like to bat like him rather than bowl like me.

"Having said that, I am sure what happened will make people change the way they look at me as a bowler. *Maybe I* will be seen as a special personality and I do not know whether I will enjoy that. From the moment I took the tenth wicket, everybody has made me feel really special. The people around me, the press and the media are making me aware of what has happened."

Everybody seems to want a part of him. When he lost the key to his room, a porter offered a replacement only after Kumble had signed an autograph. Despite the security men, a number of young girls managed to enter the lobby to wait for a sight of the country's most *eligible bachelor*.

In the lift, an American tourist offered a handshake while explaining to his baffled wife that she stood in the privileged company of the fellow who had taken ten wickets the previous afternoon. "Did you know," he asked, turning back to Kumble, "that you are only *the second man to do that?*" Somehow Kumble managed to convey the impression that he was hearing this for the first time.

Wearing glasses, a bright T-shirt, jeans and sandals, he looked remarkably fresh given the excitement of the night before. He arrival back at the hotel on *Sunday to be garlanded* with flowers and the ensuing celebrations, though quiet, did not finish until after one o'clock. He did manage to find time to speak to his mother, who had watched the game on television.

"Whenever we talk before games she tells me to go out and take a hat-trick," Kumble said. "But I think to take ten wickets in an innings is even better. It is a once-in-a-lifetime achievement. As we were leaving the field, Wasim Akram [his final victim] said that he always dreamt of taking all ten. So far he has not done it, but he said he was really happy for me."

Success in sport can be ephemeral. When the countries meet in Calcutta next Tuesday in the first game of the Asian Test championship, a triangular series involving Sri Lanka, Kumble is unlikely to find the pitch as helpful as the slow turner in Delhi. "Cricket is the sort of game where you cannot be complacent," he said. "I will be thinking about taking my first wicket, not the tenth."

SAVITA KIRLOSKAR



Posters of Kumble are snapped up by student admirers in Bombay yesterday

Tired England troops launch a final assault

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN SYDNEY

AS ENGLAND come towards the end of a long tour that has stretched nerve and sinew far beyond what anyone is prepared to give them credit for, there is one final prize to claim. They have lost the Ashes, the main business of the trip this winter, but if they can beat Australia in the final of the bloated triangular tournament, which begins in Sydney tomorrow, they may feel they have passed muster.

Alec Stewart, a willing captain, must be coming to the end of his tether, though if he is, he is not letting on. Say what you like about Stewart, he is a prisoner of his times: a professional to his fingertips and one to be admired — on the whole. Winter, summer, autumn, spring; day, night and even in the half-light, he is a cricketer, first and last. To him, this week *is just another, one of many*.

However, there is a problem and it must be addressed before England go into the World Cup. They have two special players — Gough and Hick — and Hick is only a special player when he is touched by Venus. Otherwise he is an ordinary Joe, who does not even bowl any more. Food for thought there, skipper.

England have done reasonably well in this competition, though the loss of four of their past five matches takes the edge off things. It does not help that Gough is struggling to overcome a thigh strain and is unlikely to play tomorrow.

He came through a training session at the Sydney Cricket Ground, but nobody has given a convincing reason why he played in the last of the preliminary games. Gough has bowled heart and soul for England this winter. The least he was owed was a couple of games off, and they denied him even that luxury.

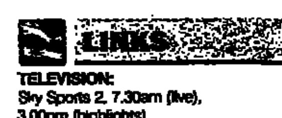
Stewart claimed yesterday that "the aim 18 months ago was to win the World Cup. The 15 players selected will be the best 15 in English conditions". Which means, reading between the lines, that these games are irrelevant.

England can afford to lose the lot and will have lost no ground, because these matches bear no relation at all to the competition that will take place in England in early summer.

Apart from Gough, who is the spearhead and the standard-bearer of this team, Neil Fairbrother is another injury doubt. Fairbrother, over the past month, has become indispensable to England's cause. Now that Graham Thorpe has been declared unfit for the World Cup, privately if not officially, the Lancashire left-hander *has* assumed an importance in the team that may surprise even *himself*. He has excelled in one-day cricket for a decade and a half but now, at 35, he finds himself more valuable than ever.

Stewart is on shakier ground when he declares that the present party includes people who have every chance of playing in the World Cup. Mark Alleyne, who, sadly, had to return to England on Sunday after the death of his father in Barbados, has no chance of featuring in it and, if Vince Wells plays, it can only be because others are indisposed.

"There will be some unlucky people when we name the team," Stewart said. Not *really*. He knows *full* well which of these players will be invited to the feast, and so does everybody else. England go into this mini-tournament as second favourites.



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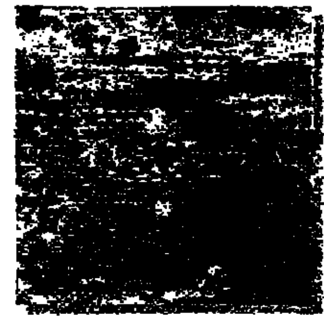


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CHANGING TIMES

Richard Evans watches Istabraq at work

Driving ambition keeps O'Brien in fast lane

On four legs or wheels, horsepower equals speed and as Aidan O'Brien drove his jeep alongside Istabraq on the legendary gallops at Ballydoyle the young training maestro could hardly believe his eyes — or the speedometer reading.

"He's gone very fast this year — much quicker — and going half speed on the bridle he will do 40 miles an hour," he said yesterday.

With the Smurfit Champion Hurdle just five weeks away, the evidence offered by Istabraq's daily routine, which includes competing against O'Brien's petrol-induced horsepower, suggests Cheltenham might be wise to invest in a chequered flag to start the race.

Probe a little deeper and one is left wondering why any other horses should even bother to oppose the champion hurdler. Although the J. P. McManus-owned Sadler's Wells gelding has run and won four races in effortless style this season, O'Brien is yet to ask him a serious question. "We probably won't have a look," he said quaintly, "until two weeks before the Champion Hurdle when he will have to do a little bit of work for the first time this year." Let us hope the jeep is serviced beforehand to give it a chance.


CAROLINE NORRIS
O'Brien parades Istabraq, his champion hurdler, at an open day at Ballydoyle yesterday

Of course, there is the small matter of negotiating eight flights of hurdles at Prestbury Park but, there again, Istabraq is such a natural that to suggest practising his jumping would be considered an insult. He will be schooled over one baby-size flight the day before the race — and leave the ground at Ballydoyle for the first time this season.

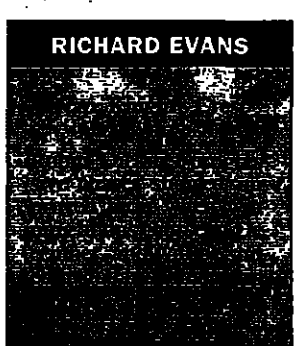
"Istabraq is 510 kilos at present, which is about 30 kilos heavier than last year, but in his work at home he is stronger than last year. He *has grown and matured. As he* gets older he has been doing his work easier. He has got more relaxed and that is because he is finding his races so much easier."

O'Brien, who has achieved more in his 29 years than most trainers dream of in a lifetime, is modest by nature but cannot suppress his enthusiasm for Istabraq. "He's a star. He just oozes class and as he gets older he gets quicker. You just have to go faster and faster."

But could that priceless speed prove his undoing as he turns for home at Cheltenham and faces a climb up the legendary hill which has broken so many hearts and wallets down the years? That, more than any other horse, is O'Brien's big worry.

Despite having won the Royal & SunAlliance Hurdle over an extended 2½ miles two years ago, O'Brien knows that two miles is now his best trip. "*The big danger this year is* that, having gone a good gallop, will he come up the hill?" And then there is the question of Istabraq's capacity to "boil over" if he becomes upset.

The thin line between genius and madman means he is, in the words of O'Brien, "borderline all the time". So the question of his temperament should give the layers offering

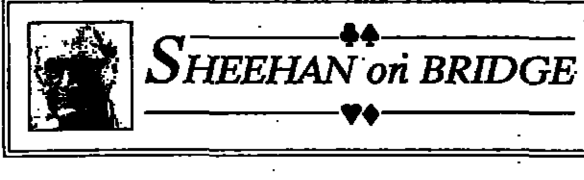
RICHARD EVANS


7-4 on the Champion Hurdle *favourite a glimmer of hope* — but no more.

Not that Istabraq is O'Brien's only Cheltenham or Champion Hurdle hope. Of the six National Hunt horses stabled in Margot's Yard, three miles away from Ballydoyle's 100 Flat horses, five will be aimed at the Festival, including Theatreworld, who finished a 12 lengths second to Istabraq last March. "At this stage he is more forward than last year." This should prompt some takers for the Ladbrokes offer yesterday of 20-1 against Theatreworld finishing second to Istabraq once again.

The rain began to fall and O'Brien beckoned us to join him in a box alongside Le Coudray, a crack French hurdler bought by Istabraq's owner, reportedly for £250,000. He is being aimed at the Bonusprint Stayers' Hurdle, where he will meet Deano's Beeno and Lady Rebecca. "We didn't *work him before he won at* Naas. Charlie Swan said the further he went the stronger he got." Take the hint and snap up any 5-1 you can find.

Darapour is entered for the Coral Cup and the Vincent O'Brien County Hurdle, while Give It Holly will be his bigger representative. "All look to have chances," the trainer suggested.



By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

This hand was played in the trials to select the British team for the 1999 European Championships. Cover up the East-West hands and decide how you would play the trump suit.

Dealer East **E-W game** **IMPs**

North: ♠ Q 10 2 ♡ K 9 6 2 ◇ Q J 10 6 ♣ Q 8

West: ♠ 4 ♡ Q 7 5 ◇ A 5 3 ♣ J 9 7 6 5 3

East: ♠ 9 8 6 3 ♡ 3 ◇ K 8 7 4 ♣ A K 10 4

South: ♠ A K J 7 5 ♡ A J 10 8 4 ◇ 9 2 ♣ 2

W	N	E	S
–	–	Pass	1 S
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 H
Pass	3 H	Pass	4 H
All Pass			

Contract: Four Hearts by South. Lead: six of clubs.

This was the auction when David Mossop was South and Tom Townsend North. Mossop put up dummy's queen on the opening club lead, and East won with the king and attempted to cash the ace. Mossop ruffed, cashed the ace of hearts and ran the jack, making ten tricks.

How did he know to play the hearts like that? There were two pieces of information. First, East had passed as dealer. Second West led a club, obviously from a non-sequential holding. Where were the high diamonds? West could not have ace-king, else he would have led *one of them.* East could not have more than one top honour, as he had passed as dealer. So East had 7 points in clubs, and at least 3 in diamonds. If he had the queen of hearts as well, he would have opened the bidding (they all open on flat 12s nowadays). Hence West was marked with the queen of hearts.

In the third round of Camrose matches played at the weekend, England (Gus Calderwood, Dick Shek, John Collings, Martin Jones, David Price, Tom Townsend) beat the Republic of Ireland (Tom Hanlon, Hugh McGann, Niall Toibin, Pat Walshe, John Carroll, Tommy Garvey) 41-19 while Wales (Patrick Jourdain, Tony Ratcliff, Peter Goodman, Adrian Thomas, Jill Casey, Filip Kurbalija) beat Scotland (Les Steel, John Matheson, David Walker, John Murdoch, Malcolm Cuthbertson, Andrew McIntosh) 37-23. Northern Ireland had a bye.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Honours even

Today I give two further games from the UK-US clash between Michael Adams and Yasser Seirawan. Since Adams is rated more than 70 points higher than Seirawan on the international ranking scale the drawn outcome must be considered a modest success for the American player.

White: Michael Adams
Black: Yasser Seirawan
Mermaid Beach Club
Bermuda 1999
Caro-Kann Defence

1	e4	c6
2	d4	d5
3	f3	g6
4	c3	Bg7
5	Be3	e5
6	dxe5	Bxe5
7	Nd2	Ne7
8	Qc2	0-0
9	0-0-0	a5
10	h4	b5
11	h5	Nd7
12	hxg6	hxg6
13	Ne2	b4
14	Bd4	c5
15	Bxe5	Nxe5
16	Nf4	a4
17	Kb1	Qa5
18	exd5	Bf5
19	Ne4	Rfb8
20	cxb4	Qxb4
21	d6	Bxe4
22	fxe4	N7c6
23	Nd5	Qb7
24	Qf2	c4
25	Rd2	f5
26	Nf6+	Kg7
27	Rh7+	Kxf6
28	Qh4+	Black resigns

White: Michael Adams
Black: Yasser Seirawan
Mermaid Beach Club
Bermuda 1999
Caro-Kann Defence

1	e4	c6
2	d4	d5
3	f3	dxe4
4	fxe4	e5
5	Nf3	Be6
6	c3	Nf6
7	Nxe5	Nxe4
8	Nf3	Be7
9	Bd3	Ng5
10	Nbd2	Nd7
11	0-0	0-0
12	Qc2	h6
13	Kh1	Nxf3
14	Nxf3	Bd6
15	Bd2	Qa5
16	Qc1	Qh5
17	Bf4	Bxf4
18	Qxf4	Rae8
19	c4	Bg4
20	Ng1	Nf6
21	h3	Bc8
22	Nf3	Ng4
23	Rae1	g5
24	Qd2	Rxe1
25	Nxe1	Kg7
26	Kg1	Nf6
27	Qf2	Ne8
28	Qg3	Kg8
29	Qb8	Ng7
30	Nf3	Bf5
31	Qxb7	Bxd3
32	Re1	Bxc4
33	Qxc6	Bxa2
34	Ne5	Qh4
35	Re4	Qg3
36	Nd7	Ne6
37	Nxf8	Nxf8
38	d5	Kg7
39	Qc5	Qd3
40	Re8	Nd7
41	Qc8	Nf6

White resigns

Keene online
You can send me your queries, puzzles, problems and games direct by email. The address is keenechess@aol.com. The best contributions from Times readers will be published either here or in the Saturday Times Weekend column.

Times book
The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in *The Times*, and is available now from bookshops or from B.T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01797 369966 at 6.99+p&p).

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

PACU
a. A tent
b. A fish
b. Dried fig paste

REINE CLAUDE
a. A greengage
b. A chess gambit
c. A troubador's verse form

OBI
a. An award
b. The musk ox
c. A hut

RYO
a. A rice dish
b. A dance
c. A monetary unit

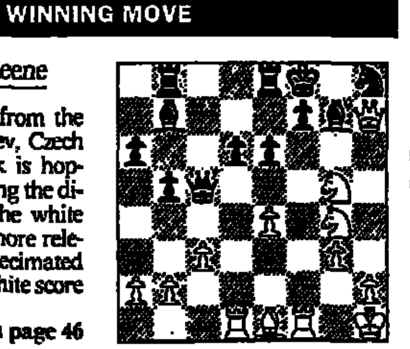
Answers on page 46

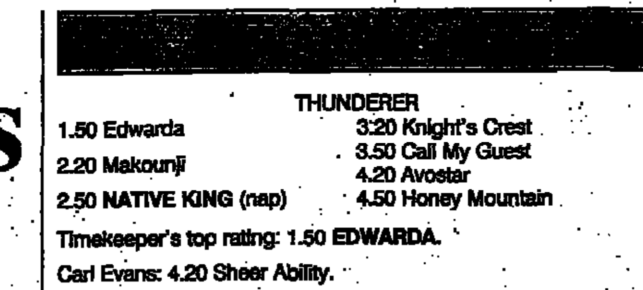
WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This from the game Simacek-Teterev, Czech Republic, 1998. Black is hoping for some play along the diagonals leading to the white king. However, the more relevant factor is his decimated kingside. How did White score an attractive finish?

Solution on page 46





THUNDERER
1.50 Edwarda
2.20 Makounji
2.50 NATIVE KING (nap)
3.20 Knight's Crest
3.50 Call My Guest
4.20 Avostar
4.50 Honey Mountain

Timekeeper's top rating: 1.50 EDWARDA.

Carl Evans: 4.20 Sheer Ability.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES) 7.30AM INSPECTION SIS

1.50 RYTON NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £2,548: 2m) (15 runners)

1 P6P16P ANOTHER BEVELED 33 (D,F) (Eastbury Racing Club) A P Jones 11-4 ....B Clifford 49
2 315 EDWARDA 87 (CD,S) (R Stanley & Y Reynolds) M Pipe 10-13 ....A P McCoy
3 568165 RIVER FRONTIER 26 (D,B) (G Summers) M Usher 10-13 ....D Byrne 79
4 R AHERNE 7 (J Hamilton-Jones) B Palling 10-12 ....W Marston –
5 0P DANCING DERVISH 27 (F Bowness Partnership) S Mellor 10-12 ....C Webb –
6 0 DORRINGTON 34F (Mrs J Gill) B Baugh 10-12 ....L Harvey –
7 U2 GOODWOOD CAVALIER 25 (BF) (C Brookes) Miss V Williams 10-12 ..N Williamson 95
8 IMSHISHWAY 96F (A Holaisal) M Pipe 10-12 ....R Greene –
9 3P INNER LIGHT 15F (BF) (Mrs P Salter) G Pearce 10-12 ....M Batchelor (5) 90
10 0P JAMORIN DANCER 31 (M Banks) M Banks 10-12 ....M Richards –
11 JULIES JEWEL 15F (Mrs J Lamming) M Chapman 10-12 ....W Worthington –
12 255 SADDLERS' ROE 39 (Ford Farm Racing) D Nicholson 10-12 ....R Johnson 90
13 0350P TIE BREAK 13 (J Joseph) J Joseph 10-12 ....J Goldstein (3) 48
14 005 TOM'S PRIZE 33 (Mrs P Joynes) T Wall 10-12 ....C Llewellyn 55
15 MISS PASADENA 160F (Mrs S Thomson Jones) Mrs D Haine 10-7 ....G Tormey –

BETTING: 9-4 Edwarda, Goodwood Cavalier, 9-2 Saddlers' Roe, 8-1 Inner Light, 10-1 Imshishway, 16-1 Miss Pasadena, 20-1 River Frontier, 25-1 others.

1998: UPGRADE 11-5 C Llewellyn (3-1 fav) N Twiston-Davies 21 ran

Another Beveled, penultimate start, 24l 6th of 10 to Dangerous Precedent in 3yo novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good). Edwarda 33l 5th of 9 to Katarino in 3yo novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to soft). River Frontier 23l 5th of 17 to Mysterious Ecology in novice claiming hurdle at Wincanton (2m, soft). Goodwood Cavalier 4l 2nd of 6 to Amoroso in 4yo maiden hurdle at Folkestone (2m 1f 110yd, heavy). Imshishway Royal Academy colt out of an unraced mare. Saddlers' Roe 30l 5th of 11 to Dangerous Precedent in 4yo novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, good to soft). Tom's Prize a distance 5th of 8 to Devonshire in novice hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 3f 110yd, heavy).

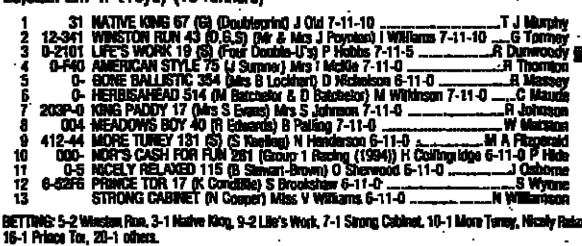
EDWARDA has less to do than at Cheltenham last time out

2.20 PRINCETHORPE NOVICES CHASE (£4,110: 2m 4f 110yd) (7 runners)

1 12221/ ATOURS 473F (F,G,S) (Roale Partnership) Miss A Newton-Smith 11-11-3 .E Byrne (7) –
2 P-4233 BARHALE BOY 31 (S) (Barhale Construction Plc) T Casey 7-11-3 ....T J Murphy
3 3343/4 CHICODARI 10 (G,S) (J Hurn) D Nicholson 7-11-3 ....R Johnson 45
4 24-16F LORD NOELIE 39 (S) (Executive Racing Club) Miss H Knight 6-11-3 ....R Thornton –
5 0/F SPIRITED STATEMENT 61 (A Gregory) S Brookshaw 9-11-3 ....S Wynne –
6 0P4-3U STRONG TEL 29 (BF,D,S) (T Neill) M Pipe 9-11-3 ....A P McCoy 56
7 1-03F1 MAKOUNJI 14 (D,S) (R Waley-Cohen) N Henderson 5-10-8 ....M A Fitzgerald 23

BETTING: 4-7 Makounji, 8-1 Atours, Barhale Boy, Strong Tel, 10-1 Chicodari, Lord Noelie, 66-1 Spirited Statement.

1998: ASK THE BUTLER 7-11-9 A P McCoy (11-4) M Pipe 13 ran



Atours beat Land Afar 8l in 5-runner hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good). Barhale Boy 15l 3rd of 6 to Samuel Wilderspin in novice chase at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, soft). Chicodari 44l 4th of 6 to Flaxley Wood in novice handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, soft). Lord Noelie fell in novice chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good to soft); previously 31l 6th of 7 to Barton in novice hurdle grade 2 at Sandown (2m 6f, good). Strong Tel unseated rider in novice chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, soft); previously 13l 3rd of 7 to Potentate in novice chase at Chepstow (2m 3f 110yd, soft). Makounji beat Cherrymore 17l in 4-runner novice chase at Leicester (2m 4f, soft).

MAKOUNJI impressed at Leicester and has a clear chance to follow up

2.50 IAN WILLIAMS OWNERS EBF NH NOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: £3,522: 2m 4f 110yd) (13 runners)

1 31 NATIVE KING 67 (G) (Doubleprint) J Old 7-11-10 ....T J Murphy 77
2 12-341 WINSTON RUN 43 (D,G,S) (Mr & Mrs J Poynton) I Williams 7-11-10 ....G Tormey 91
3 0-2101 LIFE'S WORK 19 (S) (Four Double-U's) P Hobbs 7-11-5 ....R Dunwoody
4 0-F40 AMERICAN STYLE 75 (J Sumner) Mrs I McKie 7-11-0 ....R Thornton 77
5 0- GONE BALLISTIC 354 (Mrs B Lockhart) D Nicholson 6-11-0 ....R Massey –
6 0- HERBISAHEAD 514 (M Batchelor & D Batchelor) M Wilkinson 7-11-0 ....C Maude –
7 203P-0 KING PADDY 17 (Mrs S Evans) Mrs S Johnson 7-11-0 ....R Johnson 33
8 004 MEADOWS BOY 40 (R Edwards) B Palling 7-11-0 ....W Marston –
9 412-44 MORE TUNEY 131 (S) (S Keeling) N Henderson 6-11-0 ....M A Fitzgerald 52
10 000- MOR'S CASH FOR FUN 281 (Group 1 Racing (1994)) H Collingridge 6-11-0 P Hide –
11 0-5 NICELY RELAXED 115 (B Stewart-Brown) O Sherwood 6-11-0 ....J Osborne 40
12 6-52F6 PRINCE TOR 17 (K Condliffe) S Brookshaw 6-11-0 ....S Wynne –
13 STRONG CABINET (N Cooper) Miss V Williams 6-11-0 ....N Williamson –

BETTING: 5-2 Winston Run, 3-1 Native King, 9-2 Life's Work, 7-1 Strong Cabinet, 10-1 More Tuney, Nicely Relaxed, 16-1 Prince Tor, 20-1 others.

1998: ARKLEY ROYAL 7-11-0 G Bradley (11-8 fav) J Old 23 ran

Native King beat Artemis 10l in 11-runner novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good). Winston Run beat Storm Castle 4l in 14-runner novice hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, soft). Life's Work beat Country Kris 1½l in 10-runner handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 3f 110yd, heavy). American Style 45l 9th of 16 to Sporadic Missile in novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good to soft). Gone Ballistic 92l 13th of 15 to Boca Boca in national hunt flat race at Sandown (2m 110yd, good). Meadows Boy 12l 4th of 20 to Park Alert in national hunt flat race at Warwick (2m, soft). More Tuney 15l 4th of 11 to Townleyhall in novice hurdle at Hereford (2m 3f 110yd, good). Nicely Relaxed 16l 5th of 16 to Lord Noelie in novice hurdle at Stratford (2m 6f 110yd, good).

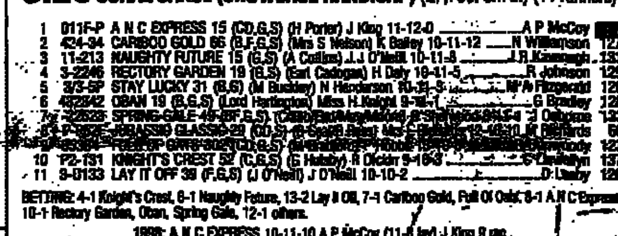
NATIVE KING appeals on his clear-cut Sandown success

3.20 CORAL CHASE (SHOWCASE HANDICAP) (£7,700: 3m 5f) (11 runners)

1 011F-P A N C EXPRESS 15 (CD,G,S) (H Porter) J King 11-12-0 ....A P McCoy
2 424-34 CARIBOO GOLD 66 (B,F,G,S) (Mrs S Nelson) K Bailey 10-11-12 ....N Williamson 127
3 11-213 NAUGHTY FUTURE 15 (G,S) (A Collins) J J O'Neill 10-11-8 ....J R Kavanagh 131
4 3-2246 RECTORY GARDEN 19 (G,S) (Earl Cadogan) H Daly 10-11-5 ....R Johnson 129
5 3/3-5P STAY LUCKY 31 (B,G) (M Buckley) N Henderson 10-11-5 ....M A Fitzgerald 120
6 432342 OBAN 19 (B,G,S) (Lord Hartington) Miss H Knight 9-11-1 ....G Bradley 128
7 [illegible] SPRING GALE 49 (BF,G,S) [illegible] ....J Osborne 133
8 [illegible] JURASSIC CLASSIC 20 (CD,S) [illegible] ....M Richards 60
9 [illegible] FULL OF OATS 30 (CD,G,S) [illegible] ....R Dunwoody 123
10 P2-131 KNIGHT'S CREST 52 (C,G,S) (G Hutsby) R Dickin 9-10-3 ....C Llewellyn 137
11 3-0133 LAY IT OFF 39 (F,G,S) (J O'Neill) J O'Neill 10-10-2 ....D Leahy 126

BETTING: 4-1 Knight's Crest, 6-1 Naughty Future, 13-2 Lay It Off, 7-1 Cariboo Gold, Full Of Oats, 8-1 A N C Express, 10-1 Rectory Garden, Oban, Spring Gale, 12-1 others.

1998: A N C EXPRESS 10-11-10 A P McCoy (11-8 fav) J King 8 ran



Cariboo Gold 34l 4th of 6 to Random Harvest in handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 1f, good). Naughty Future 9½l 3rd of 7 to Island Chief in handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 1f, soft) with A N C Express (levels) pulled up. Stay Lucky pulled up in handicap chase at Sandown (3m 5f 110yd, soft). Oban 2½l 2nd of 11 to Zaggy Lane in handicap chase at Taunton (3m 3f, heavy) with Rectory Garden (6lb better off) 3¼l 6th. Spring Gale 24l 3rd of 7 to Noisy Miner in handicap chase at Ludlow (3m, good). Jurassic Classic fell in handicap chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, soft). Full Of Oats 9¼l 4th of 22 to Bobbyjo in handicap chase grade 1 at Fairyhouse (3m 5f, good to soft). Knight's Crest beat Millersford 16l in 8-runner novice chase at Warwick (3m 2f, good to soft). Lay It Off a distance 3rd of 8 to Baronet in handicap chase at Cheltenham (4m 1f, good to soft).

KNIGHT'S CREST steps up in class but is handily weighted in a tricky race

3.50 IAN WILLIAMS OWNERS HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,711: 2m 4f 110yd) (6 runners)

1 1F0P-P NOCKSKY 66 (S) (T Neill) M Pipe 6-11-10 ....A P McCoy 36
2 4-1P13 CALL MY GUEST 11F (D,F,G,S) (D & J Class) R Peacock 9-11-8 ....M A Fitzgerald
3 1/F650 AERION 19 (G,S) (Chamberlain Addiscott) O Sherwood 8-11-7 ....J Osborne 43
4 5-1153 TARA-BROGAN 86 (D,G) (DSM (Demolition Services)) I Williams 6-11-4 R Johnson 84
5 1/1PP- CLAUDIA ELECTRIC 367 (D,G,S) (Mrs Johnsey) Miss C Johnsey 7-10-13 D Gallagher –
6 510P-4 TWO TO TANGO 129 (G) (F Mills & W Mills) N Twiston-Davies 6-10-0 C Llewellyn 98

Long handicap: Two To Tango 9-10

BETTING: 7-4 Call My Guest, 2-1 Tara-Brogan, 9-2 Nocksky, 11-2 Aerion, 16-1 Two To Tango, 20-1 Claudia Electric.

1998: CHEERFUL ASPECT 5-11-13 N Williamson (11-8 fav) T Forster 8 ran



Nocksky pulled up in handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 6f, good). Call My Guest 5l 3rd of 8 to Tiutchev in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, good to soft) with Aerion (4lb better off) 37l 6th. Aerion a distance last of 7 to Vent D'Aout in handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, heavy). Tara-Brogan 3l 3rd of 14 to Arctic Camper in novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good). Claudia Electric pulled up in novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 6f, good). Two To Tango 14l 4th of 7 to Soldier Mak in handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good).

TARA-BROGAN is narrowly preferred to Call My Guest

4.20 AIR WEDDING TROPHY HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,214: 3m 2f) (12 runners)

1 22U1-2 AVOSTAR 9P (D,G,S) (R Russell) Mrs C Bailey 12-12-8 ....Mr B Pollock
2 005052 SINGLE MAN 146 (J Tuck) J Tuck 11-12-8 ....Miss T Blazey (7) –
3 /35/P- APPLE JOHN 388P (G) (A Whiting) A Whiting 10-12-2 ....Miss P Gundry (5) –
4 233PP- CELTIC TOWN 268P (D,G,S) (Miss D Foode) P Morris 11-12-2 ..Mr C J B Barlow (7) –
5 6/P36- CHARMER'S WELL 389 (G,S) (T Curry) G Brown 11-12-2 ....Mr T Gibney (3) –
6 4/24P- KEANO 393 (D,S) (G Tregown) J R Suthern 10-12-2 ....Mr A Sansome –
7 05012/ MR INVADER 647 (G,S) (M Boddington) N Gaselee 12-12-2 ..Mr J Trice-Rolph (3) –
8 50P53- PANT LLIN 268P (B,F) (F Matthews) F Matthews 13-12-2 ....Mr P Flynn (7) –
9 133P-F SHEER ABILITY 9P (C,G,S) (C Foster) R Crosby 13-12-2 ....Mr S Morris (7) 71
10 2112-5 TITUS ANDRONICUS 23P (BF,G,S) (Miss Irving) Miss Irving 12-12-2 ..Miss H Irving (7) –
11 PP- TWELVE BORE 281 (W Everall) S Brookshaw 8-12-2 ....Mr R Cooper (7) –
12 PP1-P- TWILIGHT TOM 294 (BF,F,S) (L Williams) L Williams 10-12-2 ....Mr A Price (7) –

BETTING: 9-4 Titus Andronicus, 11-4 Avostar, 5-1 Twilight Tom, 6-1 Mr Invader, 12-1 Sheer Ability, 14-1 Single Man, Celtic Town, 25-1 others.

1998: EARTHMOVER 7-12-8 Miss P Gundry (10-11 fav) R Barber 5 ran

Avostar beat Saffron Flame 8l in 4-runner hunter chase at Folkestone (3m 2f, good). *Single Man neck 2nd of 8 to Broadway Lad in chase at Newzealand* (3m 110yd, good). Charmer's Well 24l 6th of 15 to Tompetoo in handicap hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, soft). Keano pulled up in handicap chase at Plumpton (3m 1f 110yd, heavy). Mr Invader 13l 2nd of 13 to Nova Champ in handicap chase at Hereford (3m 1f 110yd, good); previously beat Fast Thoughts 3l in 8-runner handicap chase at Windsor (3m 4f 110yd, good) with Celtic Town (16lb better off) pulled up. Sheer Ability pulled up in hunter chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to soft). Titus Andronicus 21l 4th of 7 to Jim Valentine in handicap chase at Towcester (3m 1f, good to firm).

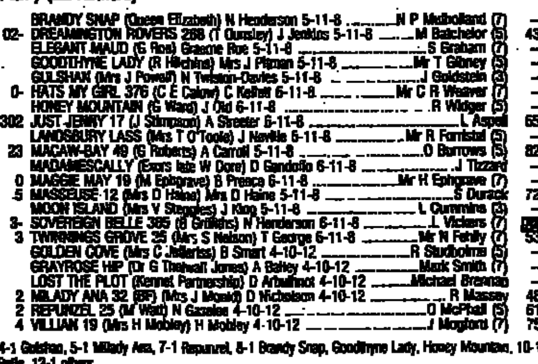
AVOSTAR, from a stable to be respected in these events, holds solid claims

4.50 FEBRUARY MARES ONLY MAIDEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (£1,620: 2m) (22 runners)

1 BRANDY SNAP (Queen Elizabeth) N Henderson 5-11-8 ....N P Mulholland (7) –
2 02- DREAMINGTON ROVERS 288 (T Ounsley) J Jenkins 5-11-8 ....M Batchelor (5) 43
3 ELEGANT MAUD (G Roe) Graeme Roe 5-11-8 ....S Graham (7) –
4 GOODTHYNE LADY (R Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-8 ....Mr T Gibney (5) –
5 GULSHAN (Mrs J Powell) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-8 ....J Goldstein (3) –
6 0- HATS MY GIRL 376 (C E Calow) C Kellett 6-11-8 ....Mr C R Weaver (7) –
7 HONEY MOUNTAIN (G Ward) J Old 6-11-8 ....R Widger (5) –
8 302 JUST JENNY 17 (J Stimpson) A Streeter 6-11-8 ....L Aspell 65
9 LANDSBURY LASS (Mrs T O'Toole) J Neville 5-11-8 ....Mr R Fomistal (5) –
10 23 MACAW-BAY 49 (G Roberts) A Carroll 5-11-8 ....O Burrows (5) 82
11 MADAMESCALLY (Exors late W Dore) D Gandolfo 6-11-8 ....J Tizzard –
12 0 MAGGIE MAY 19 (M Epsgrave) B Preece 6-11-8 ....Mr H Epsgrave (7) –
13 5 MASSEUSE 12 (Mrs D Haine) Mrs D Haine 5-11-8 ....S Durack 72
14 MOON ISLAND (Mrs V Steggles) J King 5-11-8 ....L Cummins (3) –
15 3- SOVEREIGN BELLE 385 (B Griffiths) N Henderson 6-11-8 ....L Vickers (7)
16 3 TWININGS GROVE 25 (Mrs S Nelson) T George 6-11-8 ....Mr N Fehily (7) 53
17 GOLDEN COVE (Mrs C Jefferies) B Smart 4-10-12 ....R Studholme (5) –
18 GRAYROSE HIP (Dr G Thelwall Jones) A Bailey 4-10-12 ....Mark Smith (7) –
19 LOST THE PLOT (Kennet Partnership) D Arbuthnot 4-10-12 ....Michael Brennan –
20 2 MILADY ANA 32 (BF) (Mrs J Moakit) D Nicholson 4-10-12 ....R Massey 48
21 2 REPUNZEL 25 (M Watt) N Gaselee 4-10-12 ....O McPhail (5) 61
22 4 VILLIAN 19 (Mrs H Mobley) H Mobley 4-10-12 ....J Mogford (7) 75

BETTING: 4-1 Gulshan, 5-1 Milady Ana, 7-1 Repunzel, 8-1 Brandy Snap, Goodthyne Lady, Honey Mountain, 10-1 Sovereign Belle, 12-1 others.

1998: ARDENTINNY 5-11-8 T Hagger (4-1) N Henderson 22 ran



Brandy Snap Broadsword mare, half-sister to winning sprinter Double Brandy. Dreamington Rovers 14l 2nd of 6 to All Gong in NH flat race at Fakenham (2m, good). Goodthyne Lady Good Thyne filly out of a lightly-raced mare. Gulshan Batshoof mare out of winning hurdler Gulsha. Honey Mountain Royal Match mare, half-sister to Grand National winner Earth Summit. Just Jenny 10l 2nd of 8 to Kingfisher Flyer in NH flat race at Haydock (2m, soft). Landsbury Lass Phardante mare out of winning chaser Ottavino Lady. Macaw-bay 1¼l 3rd of 16 to Starting Again in NH flat race at Ludlow (2m, good). Masseuse 14l 5th of 21 to Devil's Advocate in maiden nat hunt flat at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, soft). Sovereign Belle 1¼l 3rd of 16 to Professor Cool in NH flat race at Fontwell (2m 2f, good). Milady Ana 6l 2nd of 14 to Sandy Duff in NH flat race at Ludlow (2m, good to soft). Repunzel ¾l 2nd of 7 to Crack Shot in mares NH flat at Folkestone (2m 1f 110yd, heavy) with Twinings Grove (2lb better off) 9¼l 3rd. Villian 7½l 4th of 18 to Count Campioni in NH flat race at Ludlow (2m, soft) with Maggie May (2lb better off) a distance 14th.

MILADY ANA can make experience tell against some interesting newcomers

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Wins	Rnrs	%
Miss V Williams	4	10	40.0	A McCoy	20	51	39.2
J Old	3	11	27.3	J Osborne	11	41	26.8
T Casey	5	21	23.8	R Johnson	20	81	24.7
J King	5	21	23.8	N Williamson	14	66	21.2
D Nicholson	21	90	23.3	R Farrant	8	40	20.0
M Pipe	21	91	23.1	T J Murphy	6	30	20.0
O Sherwood	9	39	23.1	M Fitzgerald	8	47	17.0

Tiutchev 9-4 for Trophy

TIUTCHEV is a top-priced 9-4 with Victor Chandler and 6-4 with the sponsor for Saturday's Tote Gold Trophy after a 20lb rise in the weights at the five-day stage yesterday. All but one of the 22 horses left in will race off the correct handicap mark.

Wahiba Sands, 6-1 with the Tote, will have to carry 12 stone at Newbury. The withdrawal of *Pridwell*, Blowing Wind (also trained by Martin Pipe), Kerawi and Toto Toscato means he is left to top the handicap, alongside stable-companion Rainbow Frontier. Pipe has also declared Rainwatch, Amitge and Vent D'Aout. Tote's remaining prices: 12-1 Decoupage, Polar Prospect, Sharpical, 16-1 Nomadic, Rainwatch, Snow Dragon, 20-1 Effectual, Midnight Legend, Mister Rm, Vent D'Aout, 25-1 bar.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Fontwell Park

Going: good to soft

1.50 (2m 2f 110yd hdle) 1, Master Pilgrim (N Williamson, 4-11 fav); 2, Jacdor (16-1); 3, Johnston's Art (6-1). 10 ran. NR: Hardy. 19l, 5l. Miss V Williams. Tote: £1.40; £1.30, £3.00, £1.80. DF: £9.30. CSF: £7.61.

2.20 (2m 2f ch) 1, In The Blood (C Maude, 7-4 fav, Richard Evans's nap); 2, Jason's Boy (10-1); 3, Mr Jervis (4-1). 10 ran. NR: Fleur du Bois. 5l, 24l. P Hobbs. Tote: £2.30; £1.20, £1.60, £1.70. DF: £11.30. CSF: £16.16. Tricast: £55.90.

2.50 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, Tylo Steamer (N Williamson, 9-4 fav); 2, Colwall (5-1); 3, Prideswood Fuggle (8-1). 10 ran. NR: Sovereign. 8l, 4l. D Williams. Tote: £2.80; £1.60, £2.10, £2.90. DF: £8.50. CSF: £12.85. Tricast: £70.02.

3.20 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Jocks Cross (N Williamson, 6-4 fav); 2, Garrison Friendly (7-1). 9 ran. NR: Bonita Blakeney, Red River. Dist. Miss V Williams. Tote: £2.60; £1.60, £2.90. DF: £7.40. CSF: £10.93.

3.50 (2m 2f 110yd hdle) 1, Skram (C Llewellyn, 13-2); 2, Granby Bell (9-1); 3, Nordansk (11-2). Krabloonik 9-4 fav. 10 ran. NR: Hai Hoo Yaroom, Machiavelli, Red Guard. 1l, 8l. R Dickin. Tote: £6.70; £2.50, £3.20, £2.20. DF: £67.90. CSF: £60.51. Tricast: £319.67.

4.20 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Swansea Gold (Mr D O'Meara, 16-1); 2, Moorland Highflyer (5-2 jt-fav); 3, Little Rowley (20-1). Raffles Rooster 5-2 jt-fav. 11 ran. NR: Black Spring, Rambling Sam. 1l, dist. P Hobbs. Tote: £12.10; £2.60, £1.60, £15.60. DF: £13.90. CSF: £49.26. Tricast: £751.82.

4.50 (2m 2f 110yd hdle) 1, Concert Pianist (O McPhail, 33-1); 2, Prince Dundee (7-1); 3, Abelvino (9-4 fav). 13 ran. NR: The Puffin Man. 4l, 1½l. P Winkworth. Tote: £61.70; £9.60, £3.20, £1.30. DF: £246.60. CSF: £245.42.

Jackpot: £8,891.70.

Placepot: £89.10. **Quadpot:** £37.30.

Southwell

Going: standard

1.30 (7f) 1, Elite Hope (G Carter, 8-1); 2, Titta Ruffo (10-1); 3, Hawa Al Nasamaat (40-1). Dahlidya (4th) 3-1 fav. 13 ran. 1¼l, nk. N Tinkler. Tote: £8.40; £2.10, £3.30, £8.50. DF: £26.50. CSF: £74.60. Tricast: £1,750.46.

2.00 (7f) 1, Kingchip Boy (P McCabe, 4-1); 2, Kass Alhawa (11-4 fav); 3, Ring The Chief (11-2). 12 ran. ½l, 3½l. M Ryan. Tote: £6.30; £2.70, £1.30, £1.30. DF: £14.20. CSF: £14.01. Tricast: £58.29.

2.30 (6f) 1, Nero Tirol (P Fredericks, 9-1); 2, Locomotion (4-6 fav); 3, Heathyards Jake (7-1). 5 ran. 2l, 2½l. A Kelleway. Tote: £8.00; £1.80, £1.30. DF: £7.60. CSF: £15.00.

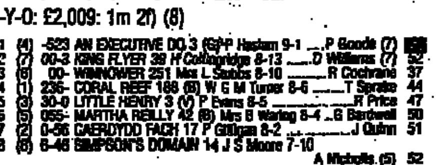
3.00 (1m) 1, Sharp Scotch (R Fitzpatrick, 7-4 fav); 2, Butrinto (11-1); 3, Saratoga Red (10-1). 9 ran. Nk, 2½l. D Carroll. Tote: £2.40; £1.10, £3.50, £2.00. DF: £23.90. CSF: £20.23. Tricast: £134.64.

3.30 (1m 3f) 1, Dick Turpin (P Goode, 7-2); 2, Copper Shell (3-1 fav); 3, Magical Shot (11-2). 15 ran. 3l, 1½l. B Smart. Tote: £4.40; £1.20, £1.80, £3.00. DF: £5.80. CSF: £12.46. Tricast: £54.69.

4.00 (6f) 1, Rock Island Line (P Roberts, 8-1); 2, Bold Aristocrat (11-2); 3, Ice Age (6-1). Grand Chapeau (6th) 7-2 jt-fav. 10 ran. ½l, 1½l. G Woodward. Tote: £7.20; £2.40, £1.60, £2.30. DF: £38.40. CSF: £49.99.

4.30 (2m) 1, Far Cry (Mr C Vigors, 6-4 fav); 2, Sudest (3-1); 3, Poker School (12-1). 10 ran. 8l, 9l. M Prescott. Tote: £2.40; £1.10, £1.80, £2.90. DF: £2.70. CSF: £5.61. Tricast: £35.54.

Placepot: £443.70. **Quadpot:** £17.90.



THUNDERER
2.00 Waiting Knight. 2.30 An Executive Do. 3.00 Frederick James. 3.30 Unreal City. 4.00 Philosophic. 4.30 Royal Preview.

GOING: STANDARD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.00 HURSTPOINT CLASSIFIED STAKES (£2,038: 1m) (10 runners)

101 (3) 1205 MAWKAB 5 (B,CB) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-1 ....P Fredericks (7) 69
102 (6) -241 WAITING KNIGHT 7 (V,CD) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-1 ....P McCabe 93
103 (4) 800/ BROUGHTONS ERROR 605 (B) W Musson 5-8-12 ....S Whitworth –
104 (10) 06-0 FAMOUS 80 (D,F,G,S) J Bridger 6-8-12 ....R Brisland (7) 73
105 (7) 0-20 KEY TO THE CITY 17 (BF,S) P Eccles 5-8-12 ....S Carson (7) 83
106 (5) 15-0 RASPBERRY SAUCE 35 (CD,S) C Cyzer 5-8-12 ....G Faulkner (3) 74
107 (2) 0642 TEOFILIO 12 (B,D,E) A McNae 5-8-12 ....T Sprake 85
108 (8) 354- CAVALLINA 95 K Burke 4-8-9 ....D Williams (7) –
109 (9) 06-0 ENGLISH LADY 35 M Haynes 4-8-9 ....R Cochrane 91
110 (1) 0-05 L'ESTABLE FLEURIE 14 (C,F) B Smart 4-8-9 ....A Clark

11-4 Key To The City, 3-1 Teofilio, 7-2 Waiting Knight, 8-1 Mawkab, 8-1 Cavallina, 12-1 Raspberry Sauce, 16-1 L'Estable Fleurie, 20-1 others.

2.30 DUNGENESS POINT CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,009: 1m 2f) (8)

201 (4) -523 AN EXECUTIVE DO 3 (G) P Haslam 9-1 ....P Goode (7)
202 (7) 00-3 KING FLYER 39 H Collingridge 8-13 ....D Williams (7) 52
203 (6) 00- WINNOWER 251 Mrs L Stubbs 8-10 ....R Cochrane 37
204 (1) 236- CORAL REEF 188 (B) W G M Turner 8-6 ....T Sprake 44
205 (3) 30-0 LITTLE HENRY 3 (V) P Evans 8-5 ....R Price 47
206 (5) 055- MARTHA REILLY 42 (B) Mrs B Waring 8-4 ..G Bardwell 50
207 (2) 0-56 CAERDYDD FACH 17 P Gilligan 8-2 ....J Quinn 51
208 (8) 6-46 SIMPSON'S DOMAIN 14 J S Moore 7-10 ....A Nicholls (5) 52

4-5 An Executive Do, 8-1 King Flyer, Martha Reilly, Simpson's Domain, 10-1 Little Henry, 12-1 Coral Reef, Caerdydd Fach, 16-1 Winnower.

3.00 CALL SALES & MARKETING MAIDEN STAKES (£3,572: 6f) (8)

301 (8) 000- ASYAAD 89 Mrs L Stubbs 4-9-11 ....R Cochrane 46
302 (3) 33/6 DANAKIL 13 J Banks 4-9-11 ....J Quinn 48
303 (1) 5333 FREDERICK JAMES 6 H Haynes 5-9-11 ....R Havlin 63
304 (6) 0-22 LOVE OPERA 6 (BF) J Berry 4-9-6 ....G Carter 61
305 (7) 70-0 SECRET TANGO 12 J R Best 4-9-6 ....T Sprake –
306 (2) 50-0 SCURRILOUS 12 J L Harris 4-9-6 ....Dean McKeown 59
307 (5) COLLEGE CHOIR G L Moore 3-8-10 ....R Brisland (7) –
308 (4) 204- DEVILETTA 111 (BF) J Gosden 3-8-5 ....A Garth

8-11 Deviletta, 7-2 Love Opera, 7-1 Frederick James, 12-1 Danakil, College Choir, 16-1 Scurrilous, 33-1 Asyaad, 50-1 Secret Tango.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield Park: 4.30 Avondale Girl.

3.30 ARENA LEISURE STAKES (£5,462: 1m 2f) (6)

401 (1) 35-4 GRALMANO 5 (B,C) N Littmoden 4-9-12 ....T G McLaughlin 88
402 (4) 2-06 WHITE PLAINS 27 (CD,F,S) K Burke 6-9-12 ....N Callan (5) 92
403 (3) 00-1 SPACE RACE 12 (C,S) C Cyzer 5-9-7 ....G Faulkner (3) 78
404 (2) 5-66 STATE OF CAUTION 20 (B) K Burke 6-9-7 ....D Sweeney
405 (5) /26- UNREAL CITY 52 (BF,G) G Wragg 6-9-7 ....A Clark 49
406 (6) 0-1 SCRAGGYS DREAM 38 (CD) P Mitchell 3-8-6 ....N Pollard (3) 34

7-4 Unreal City, 3-1 Space Race, 4-1 White Plains, 9-2 Gralmano, 10-1 Scraggys Dream, 16-1 State Of Caution.

4.00 EDDYSTONE HANDICAP (£2,634: 2m) (13)

501 (10) 0-36 PHILOSOPHIC 21 (CD,F) Mrs L Jewell 5-10-0 ....R Cochrane 73
502 (12) 30-0 FATHER SKY 10 (D,F,G,S) O Sherwood 8-9-10 ....S Carson (7) 31
503 (8) -634 HARIK 10 (BF,G) G L Moore 5-9-10 ....P Doe (5) 56
504 (3) -355 CHABROL 19 (F) P Gilligan 6-9-3 ....J Quinn 67
505 (2) -412 SPICK AND SPAN 10 (CD) P Hedger 5-8-13 ....Dane O'Neill 67
506 (6) 2-21 PADAUK 10 (B,CD) M Haynes 5-8-13 ....T Sprake
507 (7) 0-43 MUSALSE 8 (BF,CD,F) P Haslam 4-8-7 ....Dale Gibson 73
508 (1) 00-3 BEHIND THE SCENES 10 (S) C Cyzer 5-8-4 ....Martin Dwyer 77
509 (5) 010- CHARLIE'S GOLD 67J (BF) A Bailey 4-8-2 ..A Mackay 47
510 (9) 06-3 APPYABO 15 M Quinn 4-8-1 ....C Rutter 73
511 (4) 2233 HARVEY WHITE 7 (F,G,S) J Pearce 7-7-13 ..A Polli (3) 83
512 (11) 080- STRONGDAKA 42J P Hobbs 5-7-11 ....G Bardwell –
513 (13) 204- CATCHMENT 41 Mrs A Perrett 5-7-10 ....P Fessey 65

9-2 Padauk, 5-1 Spick And Span, 6-1 Philosophic, 7-1 Harik, Musalse, 8-1 Behind The Scenes, 10-1 Chabrol, Harvey White, 12-1 others.

4.30 NEEDLES HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,558: 6f) (7)

601 (1) -111 ROYAL PREVIEW 6 (C,D) M Bell 9-12 (6ex) ....C Carver (7) 65
602 (5) 2-40 CANTGETYOURBREATH 6 (V,D) Mrs N Macauley 9-7 ....Amanda Sanders 85
603 (6) 15-5 LADY CAROLINE 19 (CD) M Johnston 9-7 ....R FitzPatrick (5) 60
604 (2) 36-6 AVONDALE GIRL 19 (E,G) C Dwyer 9-5 ....N Callan (5)
605 (3) 0-12 WESTSIDE FLYER 7 (D) A Kelleway 8-8 ....D Sweeney 68
606 (7) 04-0 CREDENZA 19 R Spicer 8-0 ....A Polli (3) 50
607 (4) 4432 NICHOLAS MISTRESS 6 P Evans 7-10 ....J Quinn 70

6-4 Royal Preview, 3-1 Westside Flyer, 5-1 Lady Caroline, 7-1 Nicholas Mistress, 10-1 Cantgetyourbreath, Avondale Girl, 25-1 Credenza.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G Wragg, 11 winners from 41 runners, 26.8%; J Gosden, 16 from 71, 22.5%; Mrs A Perrett, 5 from 25, 20.0%; J Berry, 27 from 136, 19.9%; P Haslam, 24 from 122, 19.7%; M Johnston, 49 from 275, 17.8%.

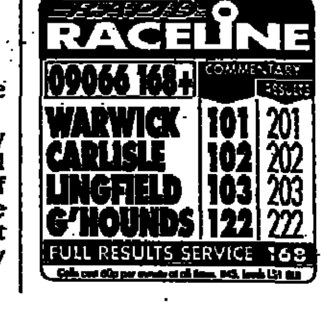
JOCKEYS: J Fanning, 9 winners from 53 rides, 17.0%; D McKeown, 27 from 159, 17.0%; N Pollard, 11 from 66, 16.7%; R Cochrane, 54 from 342, 15.8%; P Fredericks, 8 from 51, 15.7%; D Sweeney, 24 from 169, 14.2%.

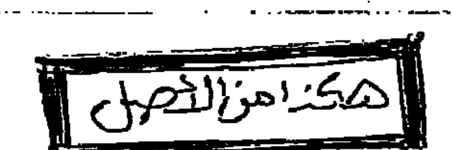
☐ Mark Usher, the trainer, was yesterday fined £1,500, jockey Luke Harvey banned for ten days and Fabulous Mtoto suspended from running for 40 days after the Fontwell stewards found them in breach of the "non-trier's" rule.

Frost claims Carlisle

THE Carlisle meeting, scheduled for today, has been cancelled because of frost. Johnnie Fenwicke-Clennel, the clerk of the course, reported yesterday: "A lot of the course is okay, but where the sun doesn't get it is still frozen. The forecast tonight is for more frost, so we were left with no alternative but to abandon."

The Warwick fixture today is also threatened by the cold snap. Lisa Rowe, the clerk of the course, said: "We will have a precautionary inspection at 7.30am." Newcastle yesterday was also a victim of frost.





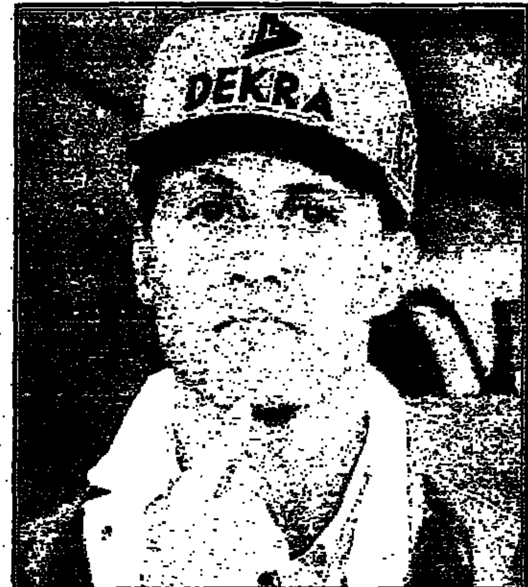
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Slow lane, no overtaking please

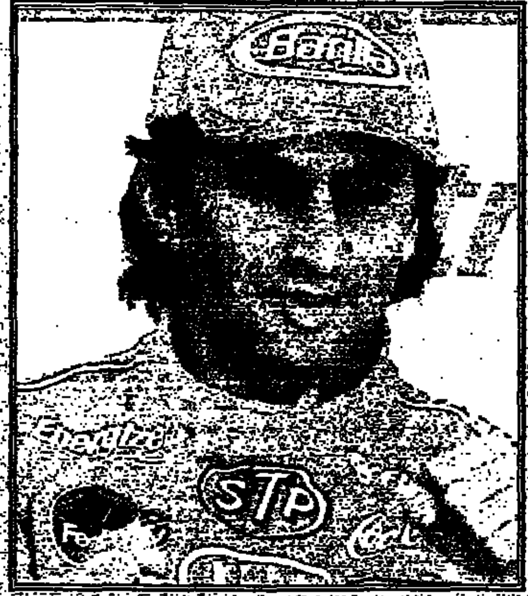
Kevin Eason talks to the president of Formula One's governing body, whose plans to make the sport safer by reducing speeds has angered drivers and enthusiasts



Damon Hill, 1996 world champion
"The new regulations have opened great potential for a train of cars going round and round, totally unable to overtake. When you get into a bunch of cars, you feel the problem increase, handicapping the drivers and our ability to race. Everybody wants to make grand prix racing as safe as possible but also as exciting. We have gone down a cul-de-sac."



Michael Schumacher, twice world champion
"The new tyres do nothing to help overtaking or the best drivers to show their talent. The level of effort you have to put into a Formula One car increases with the speed you go. Because the level of the grip from the tyres is lower, it is easier for drivers to find the limit. Once you have found it, there is nothing you can do to go faster. We will be spinning more."



Alessandro Zanardi, twice US Champ cars champion who has joined Williams
"In Champ cars, if I braked one metre later to try to pass someone, I would miss the apex (of the corner) by one metre but I could still get past. Here, if I brake a metre later, it feels like I will go off the ideal line by 10 metres, so any outbraking manoeuvre will not pay off."



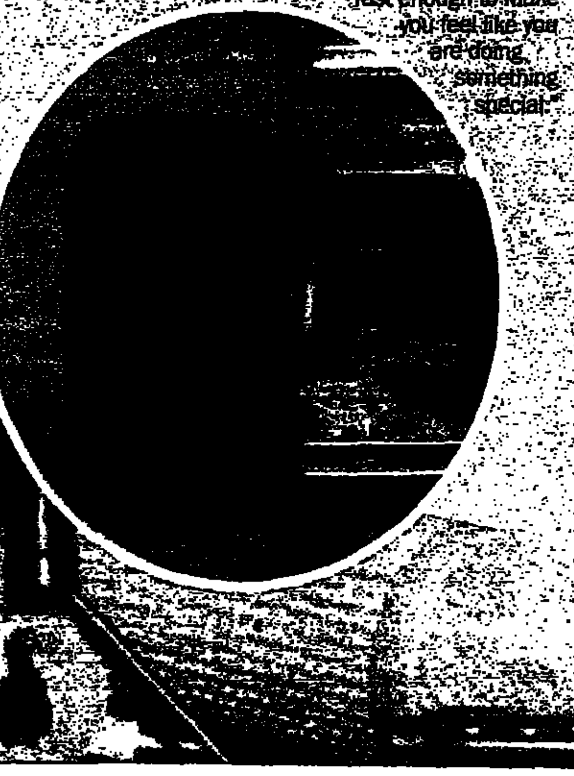
David Coulthard, McLaren No2 driver
"I don't think the cars will be much safer. The cars wander about on the straight. We will not be able to race like Nigel Mansell and Ayrton Senna did at Barcelona in 1991, when they went down the straight side-by-side. You will bang wheels. The cars are more dependent on aerodynamics and less on mechanical grip and that will harm overtaking."



Eddie Irvine, Ferrari No2 driver
"It is totally the wrong way to go - it's the easiest way, but it is the wrong way because it makes overtaking more difficult. By the time you get to a corner, one small mistake will become a much bigger mistake because the grip goes away so much quicker. We will just end up going slower and overtake much less so it will not be so interesting for us or for people watching."



Falling on deaf ears: if Max Mosley ignores the drivers' protests, racing manoeuvres such as that between Nigel Mansell and Ayrton Senna at Barcelona in 1991 could become a thing of the past



Jacques Villeneuve, 1997 world champion
"I don't know why we have the extra groove. I'm sure we will end up going the same speeds as last year, but last year wasn't fast enough. We get used to these speeds and it doesn't feel special. Formula One is the top of racing but it's just not fast enough to make you feel like you are doing something special."

He asked a doctor and computer analysts, a designer and safety experts. But not Michael Schumacher, Damon Hill, or any of the other Formula One drivers lining up to accuse Max Mosley of imposing rules that threaten to ruin motor racing.

Mosley, the president of the FIA, Formula One's governing body, has forced through technical changes to grand-prix cars that are going to make overtaking near to impossible, if you believe the drivers.

Last season was the first year of narrower cars on thinner tyres with three grooves, reducing vital grip to make driving a Formula One car round corners like roller-skating on ice. This season, it will be even worse: a fourth groove has been introduced to harder compound tyres, reducing grip even further.

Schumacher gave warning that drivers are more likely to crash and Hill said that grand-prix racing will turn into a procession of cars that are unable to overtake each other for fear of going off into the gravel traps. Yet Mosley is unmoved. "There is a law in Formula One that the success of any measure is in inverse proportion to the degree of opposition it generates," he said.

"It is now very difficult to overtake. But is that a problem? Is not grand-prix racing more interesting today than it has ever been because it is difficult to overtake? Obviously, from a driver's point of view, it is infuriating. But from the public's point of view, once upon a time, when car A caught car B, it would just overtake. Now it cannot, so one of the results is that pit stops are of crucial importance, adding a new and exciting dimension. The build-up to that can go on for 30 minutes, so the tension and drama is terrific.

"In the old days of slipstreaming at Monza, there would be 100 overtaking manoeuvres a race and you could go off and have lunch and come back for the final lap, because nothing mattered until the final lap. I am not sure that is better."

Mosley, in fact, has a simple question to help to analyse the appeal of Formula One: are you in favour of football or basketball?

"In basketball, you see a game with 100 points or more, scoring every couple of minutes," he said. "In football, you have the tension of waiting for what might be the only goal of the game. That is the same as good grand-prix racing, the anticipation is agonising and when the moment of overtaking comes, it is so satisfying."

Mosley commissioned an internal report last year after it became clear that the new regulations, designed to slow down the cars and therefore make the sport safer, were not doing their job. Not only was overtaking an activity threatened with extinction, but the team engineers found their way through the red tape so that lap times were almost as fast as ever by mid-season.

The inquiry, led by Professor Sid Watkins, the FIA's chief medical adviser, and including computer experts and Harvey Postlethwaite, the chief designer at Tyrrell, was briefed to discover how to slow down Formula One yet retain the excitement of the sport by making overtaking possible. The computer specialists studied black-box accident recorders from the cars, spending weeks in a world dominated by technology that would not look out of place in a space laboratory.

Forming technical specifications to fulfil both demands resulted in a complex formula: increase tyre grip by 50 per cent and drag by 10 per cent, but reduce aerodynamic downforce by 10 per cent. In other words, put fat, slick tyres back on cars and reduce their slipperiness through the air so that drivers could "slipstream" into corners to overtake a competitor, even in a machine with the same horsepower.

Doing that would create cars almost the opposite of the skinny, aircraft on wheels that will be taking to the track this season.

Not that the committee's findings matter, because Mosley has decided to ignore the advice of Professor Watkins and his team. He is determined to use tyres as his primary weapon to slow down cars that he believed were becoming dangerously fast, an opinion that was reinforced tragically in 1994 with the deaths of Ayrton Senna and Roland Ratzenberger.

"We were in the red line area," he said. "There was a cluster of accidents which came for several different and unconnected reasons. But the one thing that related them was that speeds were too high. Ratzenberger died absolutely because he was going at a speed too high to survive.

"If a car has enormous downforce and a 10,000-horsepower engine and is on bicycle tyres, then it can't go fast, it just isn't possible, and that is why we know we have to concentrate on this area if we are going to slow down Formula One cars and ensure the sport is safe."

Mosley is an unlikely spoilsport. He trained as a lawyer and has the straight-backed bearing of a minor aristocrat, but he was also a racing driver and co-founder of his own Formula One team, March, before being elevated to his present job. So he understands more than most the wiles and intelligence of designers capable of finding a route around almost any rules.

He remains an enthusiast and is the last man to try to kill off a sport that is second only to the Olympic Games and football as a television spectacle. Apart from the criticism of drivers and teams, he gets his fair share of hate mail from the devotees who accuse him of diluting the purity of Formula One with refuelling stops and, now, the new regulations.

Mosley is sanguine about the onslaught. "Formula One is not for enthusiasts, it is for the 300 million people who watch it on the telly and if they stop watching, all the enthusiasts in the world will not save it from extinction," he said.

SNOW REPORTS

SKI CLUB

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Runs to Resort	Off/p	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
Andorra								
Soldeu	80	90	Good	Open	Varied	Cloud	4	07/02
Austria								
Kitzbühel	90	187	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-3	08/02
Obergurgl	50	255	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-8	08/02
St Anton	130	460	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-13	08/02
Canada								
Lake Louise	135	180	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-4	08/02
France								
Alpe d'Huez	145	210	Good	Open	Varied	Fine	-12	07/02
Avoriaz	190	210	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-6	08/02
Flaine	210	370	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-12	08/02
La Plagne	155	250	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-10	07/02
Les Arcs	142	230	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-8	07/02
Megève	90	195	Good	Open	Varied	Cloud	-5	07/02
Méribel	120	230	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-8	08/02
Tignes	123	230	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-8	07/02
Val Thorens	140	200	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-16	08/02
Val d'Isère	110	275	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-13	08/02
Valmorel	140	270	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-12	08/02
Italy								
Cervinia	50	185	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-10	08/02
Cortina	30	70	Hard	Hard	Heavy	Cloud	-7	05/02
Livigno	70	159	Good	Open	Varied	Cloud	-10	08/02
Switzerland								
Crans Montana	100	220	Good	Open	Varied	Cloud	-8	08/02
Davos	145	225	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-10	08/02
Grindelwald	80	215	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-10	08/02
Klosters	120	225	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-11	08/02
St Moritz	45	120	Good	Open	Varied	Fine	-7	06/02
Verbier	100	155	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-7	08/02
Villars	90	220	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-4	08/02
Wengen	60	130	Good	Open	Powder	Snow	-6	08/02
Zermatt	80	200	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-5	08/02
United States								
Aspen	105	130	Good	Open	Powder	Fair	5	06/02
Deer Valley	230	207	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	2	08/02

http://www.skiclub.co.uk L = lower slopes U = upper slopes

World spies something beginning with M

FROM KEVIN EASON IN BARCELONA

DAVID COULTHARD preferred not to look for omens in the first undistinguished moments of his relationship with his new McLaren yesterday.

After jumping into the car that he wants to take him to a world championship for the first time, the Scot did not complete his first lap before the car broke down. It had to be towed back to the pits at the Circuit de Catalunya, near here, in front of a jostling band of photographers anxious to make the most of what might be their only chance this season to get close to the MP4-14.

If McLaren-Mercedes repeat their feat of last year, they will have the most technologically advanced car in Formula One this season, in spite of the minor glitch yesterday. But Ron Dennis, McLaren's team principal, knows that the technological lead lasts only until prying eyes have the chance to study the shape of his new car. He has decided to thwart all attempts at copying the winning formula, in spite of criticism that his team seems to be suffering from an unhealthy dose of paranoia.

Dennis was upset last year by a photographer who stole into the McLaren garage to snap a portfolio of pictures to give to a rival team, and he will not allow that to happen again. Once Coulthard and his team-mate, Mika Hakkinen, the world champion, pulled back the curtain on the challenger this year, it was quickly wheeled away to the security of a garage where the shutters were pulled down, as they will be all season. The early and ignominous arrival in the pits saw mechanics scurrying to cover the car, with Coulthard still sitting in it, in a huge, black sheet.

Dennis has ordered extra security at test sessions and races while the car's aerodynamic secrets will be visible only in a high-speed blur on the track. "Photographers will try to take pictures of our new car and we will try to stop them," he said. "They are the eyes of the other teams — there is no question about that. There are those looking for more than just a casual photograph. They are deliberate and intentional.

"Coming up with new ideas and developing them is 90 per cent of the job. If other teams see something, they can accelerate months of development."

Dennis is confident that the McLaren this year represents a more radical step forward than the car of last year, which lapped the entire field in the first race of the season. Traditionally, a new car comprises around 15 per cent of components carried over from the previous year; this time, the percentage of common parts in the MP4-14 and championship-winning car of last year is measured in single figures, and the public shakedown yesterday was to discover faults before serious testing starts next week.

Quick click: the new McLaren being towed back to the pits gives photographers a rare chance for a close-up

Coulthard believes the car will give him a head start. He said after his first outing in it yesterday: "The engineers have told me that this car is a significant step forward.

"We have matured as a team over the past year, particularly with Mika as champion, and that makes us more confident. We are a tight unit and it is going to take a lot to beat us. We have got something the other teams can only dream of. I just cannot wait to get started in Australia."

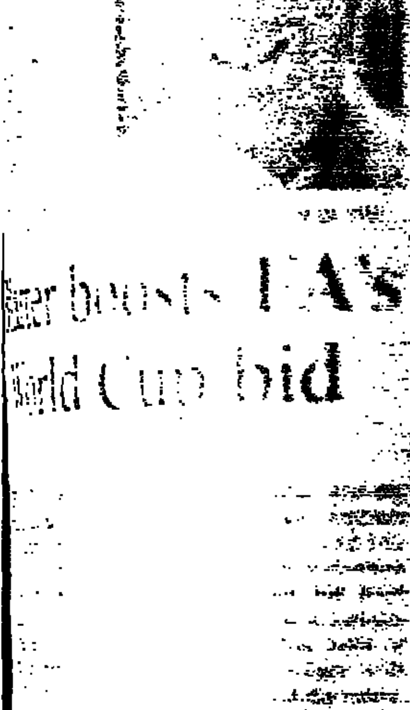
Coulthard's level of enthusiasm yesterday was higher than at any time since the middle of last season, when his championship challenge crumbled in a welter of mechanical breakdowns and lost confidence. Sitting alongside the champion only rubbed salt into the wounds and he is more determined than ever to succeed.

Hakkinen believes that the greatest threat to retaining his title is likely to come from his team-mate. "David is the driver to beat this year. He was a top driver all last season but this year he is going to fight even harder," he said.

The champion's assessment of his own chances was characteristically modest, though he looks more relaxed and confident than at any time since he joined Formula One eight seasons ago. "Winning the championship lifted a huge weight from my shoulders," he said, "and I just want to win it a second time so badly.

"But I am not going to think it is easy this year or a piece of cake. There are other top drivers who want to win too, so it will be difficult and I will have to work as hard as ever."

LINKS
WEBSITE: www.mclaren.co.uk



FOOTBALL

Calderwood can go as Graham starts clear-out

By Our Sports Staff

COLIN CALDERWOOD, the Scotland central defender, has been told that he can leave Tottenham Hotspur if the club receives the right offer for him. George Graham, the Tottenham manager, wants to trim his wage bill and yesterday he also placed three of his overseas players — Moussa Saib, Jose Dominguez and Paolo Tramezzani — on the transfer list. They were bought by Christian Gross and Gerry Francis, Graham's predecessors at White Hart Lane.

Saib, the Algeria midfield player, a £2.3 million buy a year ago, has made only five substitute appearances this season. Dominguez, a Portuguese winger, cost £1.6 million in August 1997 but is also superfluous to requirements. Tramezzani, the Italian defender, who arrived from Piacenza for £1.4 million last summer, played in the first seven games of the season but has not featured since the arrival of Graham last October.

Graham paid Blackburn Rovers £4 million for Tim Sherwood, the midfield player, last week and £1.75 million to take Mauricio Taricco, the Argentinian defender, from Ipswich Town in December.

Blackburn have rejected an official transfer request from Tim Flowers, their England goalkeeper. Flowers, 32, lost his place to John Filan while recovering from injury and, despite recovering full fitness, has been unable to reclaim the jersey. Blackburn have not received any bids for the player, although several FA Carling Premiership clubs are thought to be interested in him.

Bolton Wanderers expect to complete the £1 million signing of Bo Hansen, the striker, from Brondby, of Denmark, today. Colin Todd, the Bolton manager, has been following Hansen's progress for weeks, and the sale of Arnar Gunnlaugsson, to Leicester City last week, gave him the money with which to act.


Calderwood: on way out

John Barnes, 35, the former Liverpool and England winger, has joined Charlton Athletic from Newcastle United until the end of the season. Ruud Gullit, the Newcastle manager, said: "This will give him the chance to extend his career. He is a great character who has done well for us and we wish him well."

Barnes, 35, has not played for Newcastle since making a substitute appearance on the opening day of the season — ironically against Charlton.

Steve Staunton, the Liverpool defender, has been ruled out of the Ireland squad to meet Paraguay in the international match at Lansdowne Road tomorrow because of a calf injury.

Injuries have already forced Jeff Kenna, the Blackburn defender, Rory Delap, the Derby County midfield player, and Keith O'Neill, the Norwich City forward, to withdraw from the squad.

Wolverhampton Wanderers have sent an official appeal to the Football Association of Ireland (FAI) in a bid to get Robbie Keane, their striker, released from duty at the World Under-20 Championships in Nigeria in April. Keane has been named in Ireland's provisional squad, even though he is recognised as a senior international.

Colin Lee, the Wolves manager, confirmed that an appeal had been sent to the FAI because the club would be without Keane for up to six games if he has to travel to Africa. Wolves hope to be challenging for promotion at the time of the event and Lee said: "Robbie is a full international and we feel this should be taken into account. However, we are aware that if our appeal is turned down there is nothing that we can do as they are within their rights to call him up."

Freddie Ardiles, 19, the son of Osvaldo, the former Tottenham and Argentina midfield player, has taken his first steps in English football. Ardiles, who is studying at the University of Warwick, has signed for Bedworth United, of the Dr Martens League.

Carlo Ancelotti was appointed coach of Juventus, the Italian champions, yesterday after the resignation at the weekend of Marcello Lippi.

Blatter boosts FA's World Cup bid

By Andrew Warshaw

SEPP BLATTER, the Fifa president has said that he will block any attempt to get rid of the British vice-presidency on the world governing body of football.

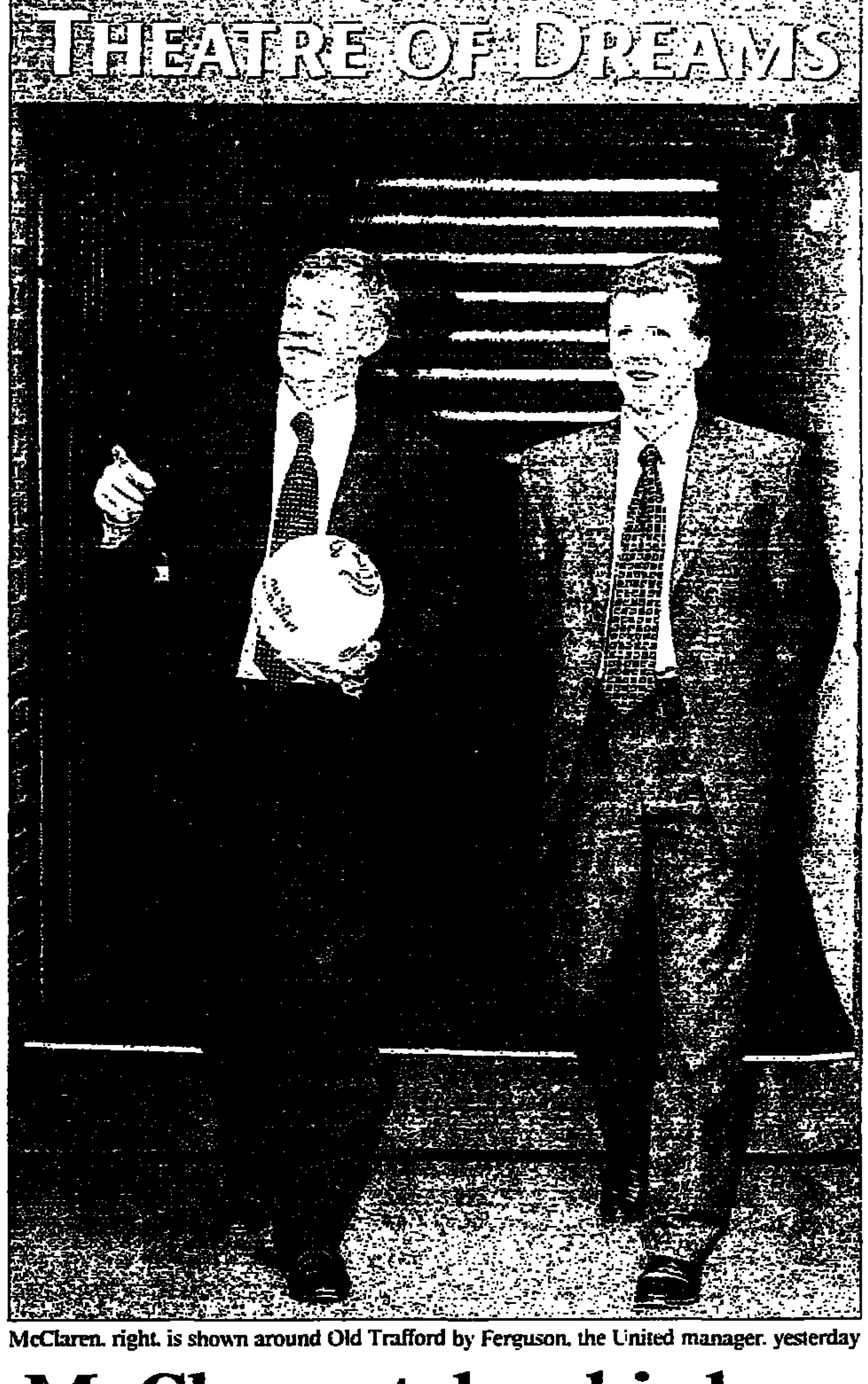
In recent weeks, high-ranking Fifa members from North America, Asia and Africa have been campaigning for the so-called "British seat" to be removed at the Fifa congress in July. That would strip Britain of its only voice on the Fifa executive committee, which will decide in March next year where the 2006 World Cup is to be staged.

However, Blatter said that he will not allow the proposal to be discussed. "It is not on the agenda and I will not permit it to be," he said. "The congress . . . has been called to discuss the Fifa budget and nothing else. The British vice-presidency cannot come up for discussion. Definitely not." Blatter's intervention means that the post, at present held by David Will, is safe for at least another 18 months, leaving him free to canvass support for England's World Cup bid.

The move will be welcomed by England's 2006 bid team and the new regime at Lancaster Gate, which has been at pains to build bridges with Fifa after the "cash-for-votes" scandal that led to the resignations of Graham Kelly, the Football Association chief executive, and Keith Wiseman, the chairman.

Less welcoming was Blatter's statement that his idea to stage a World Cup every two years now had the backing of more than half of his executive committee. This will be the prime subject of discussion when Europe's most powerful clubs — including Liverpool and Manchester United — meet in Madrid today.

"I cannot imagine the clubs will agree to this, but we have to know exactly what Mr Blatter has in mind," Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, the Bayern Munich vice-president, said.



McClaren, right, is shown around Old Trafford by Ferguson, the United manager, yesterday

McClaren takes his bow

By Stephen Wood

THE name of Steve McClaren is so unfamiliar that even Martin Edwards, the Manchester United chairman and chief executive, got it wrong yesterday. However, McClaren should rest assured that Alex Ferguson, the United manager, has no doubts that he has picked the best man to assist him at Old Trafford.

Edwards referred to McClaren as "McClaridge" as he introduced him to the media, three days after he left his position as assistant manager with Derby County to sign a 3½-year contract with United. McClaren, 37, did not let it affect him, however, indicating that he will quickly adapt to the high-profile life at Old Trafford, where United are still seeking success on three fronts: the European Cup, the FA Carling Premiership and the FA Cup.

Ferguson said: "I carried out a lot of research to find an assistant who was first-class and that I could trust. It took a long time, but every piece of information that came back to us pointed at Steve.

"He is a modern thinker, intelligent but, above all, it was clear that he gained the respect of everyone including the players at Derby. When I telephoned Jim Smith [the Derby manager] last week, he knew what it was about. He said he was dreading me getting in touch about this."

McClaren's predecessor, Brian Kidd, departed to become manager of Blackburn Rovers nearly three months ago, but, having enjoyed success as Ferguson's assistant, also left a legacy of innovative coaching and youth development.

McClaren said: "It is obvious what an impact Brian had on the club, but it is all part of a challenge that really excites me. This is the biggest club in the world, with one of the best groups of players, and it's an opportunity I have been working for all my life.

"I was surprised when I heard Alex was interested in me. As soon as I spoke to him I felt comfortable with the situation and the same goes for when I met the players before the Nottingham Forest game." He would have felt even more comfortable afterwards, his new charges winning 8-1.

Ryan Giggs, who injured a hamstring against Derby last week, is winning his race to be fit for United's European Cup quarter-final first leg against Internazionale on March 3.

The Wales winger said yesterday: "The injury is nowhere near as bad as when I missed seven weeks last season, when I tore the same hamstring. I have genuine hopes of being fit to face Inter."

RUGBY UNION

Sponsor acts to keep its paint dry

By Mark Souster

LLOYDS TSB last night agreed to investigate the problems with their on-pitch logo at Lansdowne Road that left players caked in blue and red vegetable dye and Keith Wood admitting that he "looked an idiot". The new sponsor of the Five Nations Championship acted after Roger Pickering, the tournament chief executive, wrote to the bank complaining about the unacceptable nature of the logo, being used for the first time in the championship.

Pickering said: "We have seen matches in the southern hemisphere that have more pitch branding than us and the paint does not get all over the players." Mark Harper, the Lloyds TSB sponsorship manager, said there had not been a problem at Murrayfield, where Scotland beat Wales. "We will be looking at matters and learning any lessons from this," he said.

A six-hour downpour and the quality of the turf at the stadium are being blamed for the problems, which at one stage left Wood with blue dye over his face and head. The Ireland hooker said he had not been troubled by it, "except I am told it made me look an idiot".

Ireland will not be citing Philippe Benetton, the France flanker, for punching Wood. Peter Marshall, the referee, wrongly identified Philippe Bernat-Salles as the culprit, with the France wing receiving a yellow card.

It emerged yesterday that Glanmor Griffiths and Eddie Jones, of Pontypridd, had met officials from the two Scottish super-districts in Edinburgh on Friday to discuss the feasibility of a Welsh-Scots league.

Graham Henry, the Wales coach, has complained to the International Rugby Board's referee development officer about Ed Morrison's handling of the lineout at Murrayfield.

John Evans, the Swansea prop, has been suspended for 14 days after being sent off during his side's Anglo-Welsh win over West Hartlepool at Victoria Park on Sunday.

Norman Hewitt, who has won 23 caps for New Zealand, admitted yesterday that he has an alcohol problem. The All Black hooker broke down in tears and apologised for his drunken behaviour in Queenstown at the weekend. Hewitt, 30, mistook a house for the team hotel and crashed through a plate glass window, severely gashing his arm.

Hewitt has been punished by the New Zealand Rugby Football Union. He said: "My alcohol abuse has been worsened by a number of personal difficulties in recent months."

SKIING

Kjus just avoids tragic accident

From Graham Duffill in Vail, Colorado

THE men's combined event at the world championships here began with a near-tragedy yesterday as the downhill turned into a wild rollercoaster for skiers.

A course worker or photographer slid across the path of Lasse Kjus just as the big Norwegian was approaching Screech Owl jump at 75mph. Kjus did not have to deviate from the racing line but missed him by less than a second.

The Birds of Prey course is sheet ice and all camera crews have to wear metal crampons just to be able to stand on the side.

"That should never happen in downhill, it is the most dangerous thing that can happen — thank God the guy got off my line," Kjus said at the finish. "I lost my concentration totally."

Kjus was entitled to a rerun but decided against it as he finished in third place, just 0.14sec behind the leader, Bruno Kernen, of Switzerland.

Kjetil Andre Aamodt, of Norway, the reigning combined champion, had a clean run, finishing second just eight one-hundredths behind Kernen, leaving him favourite for the title when the two slalom races are held today.

For some of the downhillers the shortened course at Beaver Creek was a tough test. Kristian Ghedina, of Italy, nearly came to grief after setting an edge too hard before Screech Owl Jump and finishing fifth. Andrzej Bachleda, of Poland, was thrown flat on his back over a jump, bounced back onto his feet, reset his goggles, which had been knocked back, and finished four seconds behind. Bode Miller, the American wild man, was thrown all over the course before sitting back in a compression above the final, Harrier Jump, over which he was thrown bodily, but managed to ski over the line on one ski to finish eight seconds off the pace.

Andrew Freshwater, of Great Britain, came to grief in the same spot but the compression threw him the wrong side of the final gate, disqualifying him. "It was a lot faster than in the downhill and because the course is shorter everybody is trying to tuck through the jumps and cut the line as fine as possible," the Scot said. "I cut it too much and couldn't keep forwards through the compression."

Hermann Maier, of Austria, decided not to race in the combined event to concentrate on winning the giant slalom on Friday.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Top clubs are given their way

By Christopher Irvine

THE JJB Super League clubs have won their argument against a mid-season five nations competition. It will now be staged in October and November, which clashes with Great Britain's participation in the new tri-nations tournament in Australia and New Zealand.

The Rugby Football League (RFL) rejected any suggestion that the competition would be devalued by the absence of the 24-strong Britain party. "It has a high degree of preparation with the home nations entered separately in the 2000 World Cup," John Huxley, the RFL media manager, said.

Super League Europe, which represents the 14 leading clubs, has increased the number of matches by seven per club and is opposed to additional international fixtures during the regular Super League campaign.

Mark Reber, newly recruited by Wigan Warriors from North Sydney, may come into contention at scrum half away to Leeds Rhinos in the fourth round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup on Sunday, as Tony Smith is out for up to six weeks with a broken ankle. Martin Hall, the Wales hooker, signed for Hull Sharks yesterday and is expected to make his debut away to Castleford Tigers on Sunday.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

HONOLULU: Pro Bowl: AFC 23 NFC 10

BADMINTON

HAYWARDS HEATH: National championships: Men: Singles: Final: D Hall (Essex) bt C Haughton (Lancs) 6-15, 15-7, 15-5

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Sunday: Chester Jets 84 Manchester Giants 98

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Detroit 107 Indiana 98, New York 79 Miami 83; LA Lakers 91 Utah 100; New Jersey 79 Atlanta 69; Phoenix 115 Denver 108, Seattle 91 Portland 88, LA Clippers 84 Chicago 89, Sacramento 109 Vancouver 87, Golden State 99 Dallas 102 (OT)

BOWLS

NOTTINGHAM: English Indoor Bowling Association national championships: Under-25: Singles: First round: C Young (Wey Valley) bt D Bolt (Sunderland) 21-12, O Ovett (Preston) bt C Cooper (Tynedale) 21-10; S Robertson (Victory) bt P Simpson (Spalding) 21-12, M Bowley (Nottingham) bt A Lauder (Cumbria) 21-18; J Howlett (County Arts) bt T Hulbert (Charnwood) 21-5; G Allen (Isis) bt S Hammond (Lawson Park) 21-11, A Wood (Hounslow) bt A Colebrooke (Clarne Dunbar) 21-15, M Royal (Mid Suffolk) bt D Nutman (Moonfleet) 21-14. **Quarter-finals:** Ovett bt Young 21-17; Bowley bt Robertson 21-8, Allen bt Howlett 21-9; Royal bt Wood 21-2. **Semi-finals:** Ovett bt Bowley 21-16, Allen bt Royal 21-14. **Final:** Ovett bt Allen 21-16. **Over-60 singles: First round:** D Boyle (North Cave) bt J Lewis (Mendip) 21-14; L Fisher (Torbay) bt W Carter (Egerton Park) 21-6; E Page (Stevenage) bt R Strudwick (Wey Valley) 21-11; R Tappin (East Dorset) bt A Simpson (Cyphers) 21-17, P Day (Welford-on-Avon) bt M Litherland (North Wilts) 21-17, G Archibald (Worthing) bt J Marshall (Acle) 21-20. C Carns (Concordia) bt I Widman (Giebelands) 21-8, M Freestone (Barwell) bt T Whitebread (Cheshunt) 21-11; D Williams (York) bt R Worth (Kingsthorpe) 21-16, G Woodger (Camberley) bt B Slatter (City and County of Oxford) 21-12; L Bell (Palmerston) bt I Harvey (Desborough, Maidenhead) 21-8; G Dobson (Lincoln) bt A Pearce (Jacks Centre) 21-12, J Barnett (Church Gresley) bt M Garred (West Mersea) 21-7, E Ramsdale (Darlington) bt R Orford (Banister Park) 21-18, J Searle (Moonfleet) bt K Barber (Lawson Park) 21-14; J Watson (Cumbria) bt K Wood (Margate) 21-20. **Second round:** Fisher bt Boyle 21-20, Tappin bt Page 21-19, Day bt Archibald 21-7; Carns bt Freestone 21-1, Williams bt Woodger 21-18, Bell bt Dobson 21-12; Ramsdale bt Barnett 21-14, Watson bt Searle 21-15. **Quarter-finals:** Fisher bt Tappin 21-12, Day bt Carns 21-18, Bell bt Williams 21-13, Ramsdale bt Watson 21-10. **Semi-finals:** Fisher bt Day 21-17, Bell bt Ramsdale 21-14. **Final:** Bell bt Fisher 21-20

CRICKET

International match

New Zealand Under-19 v England Under-19

WELLINGTON (first day of four; England Under-19 won toss): England Under-19, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 16 runs ahead of New Zealand Under-19

NEW ZEALAND UNDER-19: First Innings

T McIntosh lbw b Bulbeck	0
M Papps b Whiley	0
B Patron c Tucker b Whiley	0
J Englefeld c Carberry b Tucker	20
J McNamee c & b Tucker	15
J Franklin lbw b Haywood	1
P McGlashan not out	28
M Hendry lbw b Tucker	22
B Martin c Bulbeck b Tucker	12
L Hammond lbw b Tucker	0
H Shaw c Haywood b Whiley	4
Extras (b 1, lb 3, w 2, nb 2)	8
Total (57.2 overs)	**110**

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-2, 3-8, 4-36, 5-37, 6-42, 7-85, 8-105, 9-105

BOWLING: Bulbeck 15-6-30-1, Whiley 12.2-6-21-3, Tucker 16-5-35-5, Haywood 10-9-4-1, Bridge 4-0-16-0

ENGLAND UNDER-19: First Innings

M A Gough not out	65
I N Flanagan b Shaw	10
I R Bell c Martin b Shaw	2
M A Carberry c Papps b Shaw	5
G R Haywood lbw b Shaw	3
R K J Dawson not out	26
Extras (lb 3, lb 4, nb 8)	15
Total (4 wkts, 42 overs)	**126**

J R Tucker, M P L Bulbeck, M J A Whiley, M A Wallace, G R Bridge to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-19, 2-23, 3-43, 4-47

BOWLING: Shaw 11-1-37-4, Hammond 8-0-30-0, Hendry 6-2-13-0, Martin 10-4-22-0, Franklin 7-1-17-0

Umpires: R Garland and D Alexander

AUSTRALIA SQUAD (to tour West Indies, Feb-April): A J Bichel, G S Blewett, A C Dale, M T G Elliott, J N Gillespie, I A Healy, J L Langer, S C G MacGill, G D McGrath, C R Miller, R T Ponting, M J Slater, S K Warne, M E Waugh, S R Waugh

FOOTBALL

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Fifth-round draw: Hitchin Town v Forest Green Rovers, Northwich Victoria v Colwyn Bay, Boston United v Altrincham, Kingstonian v Yeovil, Emley v Whitby, Cheltenham or Stevenage Borough v Hendon, Woking or Rushden and Diamonds v Southport, Dagenham and Redbridge v Ashton United or St Albans

☐ Ties to be played Feb 27

WOMEN'S FA CUP: Quarter-final draw: Doncaster Belles v Croydon, Watford v Arsenal, Sheff Wed v Southampton Saints, Reading Royals v Tranmere

☐ Ties to be played March 7

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Dallas 0 Colorado 3, NY Islanders 3 Vancouver 3, Boston 3 NY Rangers 2, Pittsburgh 2 Detroit 1, Washington 3 Buffalo 1

SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUE: Sunday: Ayr Eagles 4 Sheffield Steelers 0, Newcastle Riverkings 5 Nottingham Panthers 2

RUGBY UNION

JEWSON NATIONAL LEAGUE: Leading scorers: 283: S Swindells (Manchester, 4 tries, 51 conversions, 57 penalty goals). **190:** G Gregory (Camberley, 2t, 21c, 45pg, 1dg). **185:** C Atkinson (Nottingham, 2t, 20c, 45pg). **180:** D Pears (Wharfedale, 4t, 17c, 39pg, 3 dropped goals). **169:** J Dance (Reading, 1t, 25c, 38pg); **154:** M Birch (Birmingham/Solihull, 2t, 24c, 32pg). **Tries: 9:** L Feipe (Otley), D Muckalt (Reading). **8:** T Burgon (Manchester), J Griffiths (Newbury), B Rowland (Reading), A Royer (Nottingham), G Sharp (Henley)

SCHOOLS SPORT

SWIMMING: Stockport: National team championships: Junior boys (12-14): **4 x 50m freestyle:** 1, Manchester GS 1min 53.76sec. **4 x 50m medley:** 1, Painsley RC High, Cheadle (7) 2 10.17 (record). **Intermediate boys** (14-16): **4 x 50m freestyle:** 1, Millfield School, Street (5) 1 44.48 (record). **4 x 50m medley:** 1, Millfield (5) 1 56.72 (record). **Senior boys** (16-19): **4 x 50m freestyle:** 1, Millfield (5) 1 55.72 (record). **4 x 50m medley:** 1, Kelly Coll, Tavistock (5) 1 53.55. **Junior girls** (12-14): **4 x 50m freestyle:** 1, Our Lady's Chetwynde, Barrow (1) 1 58.68. **4 x 50m medley:** 1, Our Lady's Chetwynde (1) 2 13.15 (record). **Intermediate girls** (14-16): **4 x 50m freestyle:** 1, Millfield (5) 1 54.74 (record). **4 x 50m medley:** 1, Millfield (5) 2 09.18 (record). **Senior girls** (16-19): **4 x 50m freestyle:** 1, Wigan and Leigh Coll (7) 1 54.44 (record). **4 x 50m medley:** 1, Millfield (5) 2 06.41 (record)

SKIING

VAIL: World championships: Women: Downhill: 1, R Goetschl (Austria) 1 46.22; 2, M Dorfmeister (Austria) 1 48.35; 3, S Schuster (Austria) 1 48.37; 4, A Meissnitzer (Austria) 1 46.47; 5, R Haeusl (Ger) 1 46.52. **British placing:** 34, T Prior 1 53.09

SNOOKER

WEMBLEY: Benson and Hedges Masters: First round: M King (Eng) bt J White (Eng) 6-5. **Second round:** A McManus (Scot) bt S Lee (Eng) 6-2; T Drago (Malta) bt S Hendry (Scot) 6-4

TENNIS

DUBAI: Dubai Open: A Costa (Sp) bt H Arazi (Mor) 6-3, 6-2; B Black (Zim) bt E Ulirach (Cz) 6-1, 7-6; P Korda (Cze) bt A Martin (Sp) 6-3, 6-4; G Kuerten (Br) bt J A Marin (C Rica) 6-4, 6-4; G Rusedski (GB) bt S Schalken (Holl) 6-4, 6-3; C Moya (Sp) bt M Norman (Swe) 1-6, 6-3, 6-4

ST PETERSBURG, Russia: First round: J Tarango (US) bt A Calatrava (Sp) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3; A Pavel (Rom) bt J Apell (Swe) 6-3, 5-7, 6-4; F Jonsson (Swe) bt J Krocsko (Slvk) 6-1, 7-6; M Tillstrom (Swe) bt A Cherkasov (Russ) 3-6, 6-4, 6-4; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt D Tieleman (It) 6-3, 6-1

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday February 13

Coupon No, fix, forecast

FA CUP FIFTH ROUND
1 Barnsley v Bristol R 1
2 Everton v Coventry 2
3 Leeds v Tottenham X
4 Sheff Wed v Chelsea 1
5 Huddersfield v Derby X

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP
6 Charlton v Liverpool X
7 West Ham v Nott'm F 1

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION
8 Bolton v West Brom 1
9 Bradford v Ipswich X
10 Bristol C v Sunderland 2
11 C Palace v Crewe 1
12 Portsmouth v Bury 1
13 Stockport v Birm'ham 2
14 Tranmere v QPR 1
15 Wolves v Port Vale 1

SECOND DIVISION
16 Bourn'm'th v Man City X
17 Burnley v Reading 1
18 Lincoln v Millwall X
19 Macclesf'ld v Oldham 2
20 North'pton v Gill'ham 2
21 Notts Co v Blackpool 2
22 Preston v Wycombe 1
23 York v Walsall 2

THIRD DIVISION
24 Brentford v Torquay 1
25 Brighton v Exeter 1
26 Cambridge v S'thorpe X
27 Chester v Peterboro 2
28 Halifax v Southend 2
29 Hartlepool v Darlington X
30 Mansfield v Leyton O 1
31 Plymouth v Rotherham 2
32 Shrewsbury v Scarboro 1
33 Swansea v Carlisle 1

SCOTTISH LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION
34 Forfar v East Fife X
35 Inverness Cal v Q of S 1

THIRD DIVISION
36 Cowdenb'th v Berwick 1
37 Stenh'muir v Montrose 1

NATIONWIDE CONFERENCE
38 Barrow v Hayes 2
39 Doncaster v Yeovil 1
40 Dover v Hednesford 1
41 Farnboro v Hereford 2
42 Kettering v Telford 1
43 Kidd'minster v Rushden X
44 Mo'cambe v Ch'tenham 2
45 Northwich v Southport 1
46 Stevenage v Kingstonian 1
47 Woking v Leek 1

UNIBOND LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION
48 Accrington v Worksop 2
49 Altrincham v Winsford 1

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Leeds, Huddersfield, Charlton, Bradford City, Bournemouth, Lincoln, Cambridge, Hartlepool, Forfar, Kidderminster.
BEST DRAWS: Leeds, Bradford City, Bournemouth, Lincoln, Hartlepool.
AWAYS: Coventry, Sunderland, Oldham, Peterborough, Hayes.
HOMES: West Ham, Bolton, Portsmouth, Preston, Brighton, Shrewsbury, Swansea, Stenhousemuir, Doncaster.
FIXED ODDS: Homes: West Ham, Portsmouth, Brighton, Shrewsbury, Swansea. **Aways:** Coventry, Oldham, Peterborough. **Draws:** Leeds, Lincoln, Hartlepool

■ Vince Wright

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Under-21 international match
England v France (at Pride Park, 8.05)

B International
Wales v Northern Ireland (at Wrexham F C)

Nationwide League
Third division
Darlington v Carlisle (7.45)

Nationwide Conference
Dover v Farnborough (7.45)

Tennent's Scottish Cup
Third-round replay
Dundee United v Queen's Park (7.45)

Scottish League
Third division
Albion v Cowdenbeath

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Midland division: Sutton Coldfield Town v Paget R. **League Cup: Second round:** Bedworth v Tamworth, Racing Club Warwick v Sutton Coldfield Town, Shepshed Dynamo v Baldock. **Third round:** Burton v Bilston, Rothwell v Boston, Stourbridge v Solihull

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Eastwood Town v Lincoln United, Great Harwood v Trafford. **Challenge Cup: Third round:** Droylsden v Colwyn Bay, Matlock Town v Atherton. **Third-round replay:** Accrington Stanley v Chorley

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: League Cup: Fourth round: Leatherhead v Aldershot Town (7.45). **League Cup: Third round:** Barton Rovers v Boreham Wood

RYMAN LEAGUE: First division: Bognor Regis v Maidenhead, Chertsey v Braintree, Uxbridge v Croydon. **Second division:** Abingdon Town v Hungerford, Barking v Hemel Hempstead, Chalfont St Peter v Metropolitan Police. **Third division:** Clapton v Corinthian-Casuals, Egham v Camberley Town, Epsom and Ewell v Ford Utd. **Vandanel Trophy: Third round:** Bedford Town v Leighton Town, Hertford v Windsor and Eton. **Puma Cup: Second round:** Berkhamsted v Aylesbury, Dulwich Hamlet v Basingstoke

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Fifth round: Arsenal v Crystal Palace. **Fourth round:** Coventry City v Notts County, Hartlepool United v Watford, Millwall v Bolton. **Fourth-round replay:** Middlesbrough v Scunthorpe

FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE: Midland Conference: Lincoln City v West Brom (11.0). **North West Conference:** Blackpool v Bury (11.0), Tranmere v Rochdale (12.0). **North East Conference:** Rotherham v Sheff United (1.0), York v Halifax (7.0), Darlington v Scarborough (2.0)

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Tottenham Hotspur v Portsmouth, West Ham United v Reading (7.45), Queens Park Rangers v Peterborough (2.0), Brentford v Crystal Palace (2.0)

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Aston Villa v Everton (7.0), Leicester v Leeds (7.0)

SCHWEPPES ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Basildon United v Hullbridge Sports, Eton Manor v Sawbridgeworth, Stansted v East Ham

COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Almondsbury v Harrow Hill

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Morpeth Town v Billingham

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Premier League: Greenwich v Lordswood, Herne Bay v Erith, Sheppey v Chatham, Thamesmead v Beckenham, Tunbridge Wells v V C D

MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Beaconsfield Sycob v New Bradwell St Peter, Brook House v Teddington Haringey v London Colney, St Margaretsbury v Royston, Waltham Abbey v Milton Keynes, Welwyn Garden v Potters Bar Town. **Senior division Cup: Third round:** Cockfosters v Tring, Langford v Biggleswade, Letchworth v Winslow. **Senior division:** Harefield v Leverstock Green

ENDSLEIGH CHALLENGE TROPHY: Quarter-final: Cheltenham v Hayes (7.45)

COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Farnham v Ashford

MIDDLESEX COUNTY FA SENIOR CUP: Third round: Hampton v Hendon

SURREY SENIOR CUP: Third round: Ashford v Sutton United

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Lye Town v Ettingshall, Malvern Town v Brierley Hill Town, Walsall Wood v Bandon, Wolverhampton C v Stafford Town. **Premier Division Cup: Second round:** Cradley Town v Gornal Athletic

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Lowestoft v Great Yarmouth, Newmarket v Wroxham

SOUTHERN JUNIOR FLOODLIT CUP: Second round: Cambridge United v Birmingham (7.0), Leyton Orient v Wolverhampton (6.0)

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Eastbourne v Langney Sports, Wick v Broadbridge Heath

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Fourth-round replay: Rushden and Diamonds v Woking (7.45)

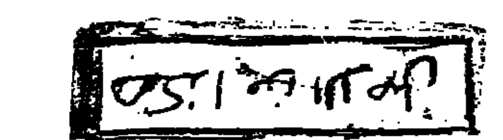
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Staveley MW v Garforth Town. **Presidents Cup: Fourth round:** North Ferriby v Louth

NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE: First division: Bootle v Salford, Nantwich Town v St Helens Town. **League Cup: Third-round replay:** Newcastle Town v Glossop North End. **Floodlit Trophy: Semi-final, first leg:** Kidsgrove Ath v Curzon Ashton. **Third round:** Rossendale v Darwen

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University v The Army (7.15), Oxford v Oxford University (7.15)





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TENNIS: WINNING RETURN FOR BRITISH NO 2 AFTER AUSTRALIAN DISAPPOINTMENT

Rusedski benefits from extra training

FROM ALIX RAMSAY IN DUBAI

GREG RUSEDSKI notched up only his second victory of the year last night and earned himself 25 ranking points into the bargain. That leaves 815 to go between now and the middle of March if he is to maintain his place among the world's top ten. That would be no easy task for any player, but the sort of year that Rusedski has been having promises a particularly gruelling uphill struggle.

Still, if Rusedski's passage into the second round of the Dubai Open could hardly be described as serene, he was equal to the task of getting the better of Sjeng Schalken, of Holland, and did so 6-4, 6-3 in a little more than n hour.

Results..............................45

Happy to be away from the slower Rebound Ace surface of the Australian Open and back to his favoured Decoturf, Rusedski huffed and puffed with his first service for most of the first set before finding his range, and with it his confidence.

Schalken has had trouble with British players in the past but that does not mean he is a pushover. He played like a drain in Doha to lose to Tim Henman in January but then went on to win his fourth career title in Auckland. Back in the Middle East, he was far from his best. He did come back from 3-2 down to break the Rusedski service, only to drop his own to love in the very next game. Once the first set had escaped him, Schalken's heart was not in it and Rusedski was home and dry.

Certainly Rusedski looked in fine fettle. Despite wearing a less-than-fetching backbrace that resembles a roll-on girdle of the 1950s, he moved well around the court as he showed off the benefits of a punishing training schedule. Since his return from Melbourne he has spent more than five hours a day working on his fitness and movement and he plans more of the same. The brace, he claimed, was no more than a comfort, protecting the site of an old injury. If only protecting his ranking could be as simple.

More than half the points he has to defend were won in tournaments in Split and Antwerp that have been dropped from the calendar, leaving him to hunt in new territory to make up the shortfall. Not that he is looking for easy pickings at small events.

"I want to test myself against the top players," he said. "That's the only way I'm going to prove myself and give myself the confidence to win a grand slam." Next on the list here is either Francisco Clavet or Wayne Ferreira.

Petr Korda is also a changed man from the fraught figure who began the season by losing in Doha. Then, he was unsure how long he could battle against the tide of headlines, rumours and court cases and still keep playing tennis. After his first round victory over Alberto Martin, a lucky loser from Spain, he was still talking about the end of his career, but this time it was on his terms, not those of the International Tennis Federation.

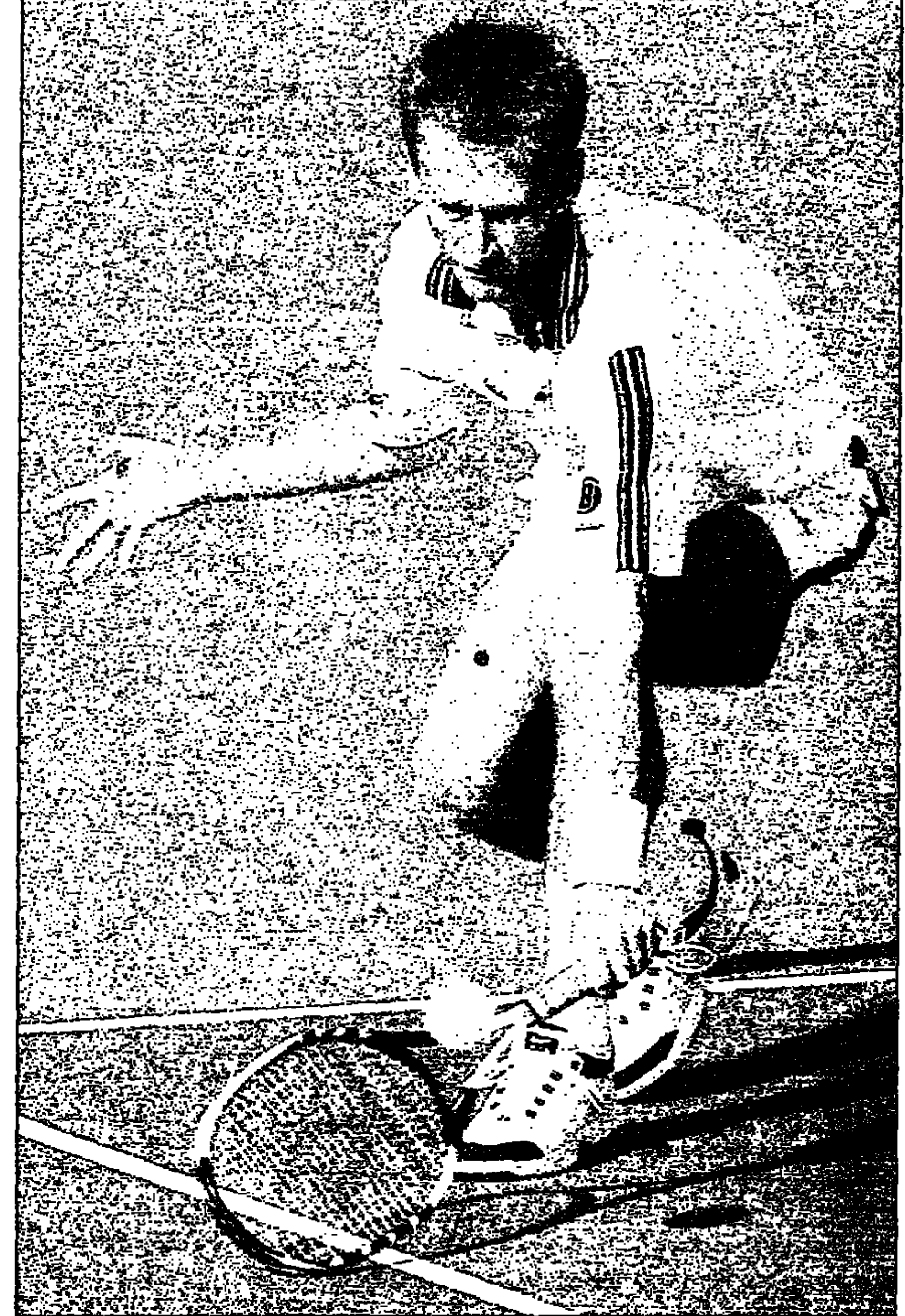
Martin has the walk of a man who has spent too long in the saddle. This may be on account of his thighs, which, for a chap of only 5ft 9in, are of staggeringly generous proportions, ensuring that there is little chance of his knees ever touching. There was scant chance of his racket touching Korda's forehand either as the Czech went through 6-3, 6-4. "I need to play as many matches as I can," Korda said. "Last year I had a long run of losing matches and I have to get back my confidence and my match fitness."

Back in a far more positive frame of mind, the only thing he can see stopping him now is his family. In September, his daughter will enrol in school in Prague and Korda wants to be there to see it, when he should be playing in the US Open. "For years my tennis has come first, now it is my turn to make the sacrifice," he said.

"Obviously it has changed me a bit," Korda said of the scandal after he failed a drugs test at Wimbledon last year. "I won't say [it changed me] as a good boy or a bad boy. I can't say exactly how, but I will always have my friends and family."

He played down the significance of the Czech Tennis Federation's decision to ban him from the Czech championships and the Davis Cup team. "I was not invited to the meeting which decided this and I was not informed," he said. "I understand I am banned, but I have not played in the championships since 1987 and have not played Davis Cup since 1997."

JORGE FERRARA



Korda, making a backhand return against Martin, is to spend more time with his family

NatWest Personal Credit Interest Rates

NatWest announces the following interest rates, effective from 9 February 1999:

Current Accounts

Old Gross Rate per annum (%)	Old AER (%)	Balance	New Gross Rate per annum (%)	New AER (%)
		Advantage Premier		
3.00	3.04	£25,000 +	2.50	2.53
2.50	2.53	£10,000 - £24,999	2.00	2.02
2.00	2.02	£2,000 - £9,999	1.50	1.51
0.75	0.75	£1 - £1,999	0.75	0.75

Savings

Old Gross Rate per annum (%)	Old AER (%)	Balance	New Gross Rate per annum (%)	New AER (%)
		TESSA Reserve Tax Free Savings - No Minimum Balance		
6.00	6.14		5.50	5.61
		Crown Reserve 3 Month Notice - interest paid quarterly		
5.60	5.72	£250,000 +	5.10	5.20
5.50	5.61	£100,000 - £249,999	5.00	5.09
5.20	5.30	£50,000 - £99,999	4.70	4.76
4.25	4.32	£25,000 - £49,999	3.75	3.80
3.75	3.80	£10,000 - £24,999	3.25	3.29
3.20	3.24	£2,000 - £9,999	2.70	2.73
		Diamond Reserve 1 Month Notice - interest paid monthly		
5.30	5.43	£100,000 +	4.80	4.91
5.00	5.12	£50,000 - £99,999	4.50	4.59
4.25	4.33	£25,000 - £49,999	3.75	3.82
3.75	3.82	£10,000 - £24,999	3.25	3.30
3.20	3.25	£2,000 - £9,999	2.70	2.73
		Reward Reserve Instant access - interest paid quarterly		
3.20	3.24	£10,000 +	2.70	2.73
2.95	2.98	£2,000 - £9,999	2.45	2.47
		Includes all conditional rewards - interest paid quarterly and annually †		
5.45	5.50	£10,000 +	4.95	4.99
5.20	5.24	£2,000 - £9,999	4.70	4.73
		Premium Reserve Instant access - interest paid quarterly		
3.80	3.85	£50,000 +	3.30	3.34
3.70	3.75	£25,000 - £49,999	3.20	3.24
3.45	3.49	£10,000 - £24,999	2.95	2.98
3.10	3.14	£2,000 - £9,999	2.60	2.63
		First Reserve Instant access - interest paid quarterly		
2.60	2.63	£1,000 +	2.10	2.12
2.35	2.37	£500 - £999	1.85	1.86
1.25	1.26	£250 - £499	1.00	1.00
1.10	1.10	£100 - £249	0.85	0.85
1.00	1.00	£1 - £99	0.75	0.75

The rates for all other personal savings accounts remain unchanged.
Where appropriate, lower rate tax will be deducted at source from interest credited or paid.
The Gross Rate is the rate paid before deducting income tax.
The Annual Equivalent Rate (AER) is a notional rate which shows the gross interest rate (including any reward interest payable) as if paid and compounded on an annual basis.
† The AER shown includes all conditional reward interest payable, comprising quarterly interest rewards of 1.75% gross per annum and an annual interest reward of 0.50% gross per annum. Quarterly rewards are payable provided the account balance does not fall below £2,000 and no more than one withdrawal is made in any quarter.
Annual rewards are payable provided the account remains in credit and no more than three withdrawals are made in any year.
Should you close your account during a quarterly or annual period you will not receive any quarterly or annual reward for that period.
For details of other interest rates please ask at your local branch or visit our website - www.natwest.co.uk.
All rates are subject to variation.

NatWest

National Westminster Bank Plc, 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP

SNOOKER

Dip in form puts Hendry at bottom of the table

BY PHIL YATES

STEPHEN HENDRY uttered one word at his post-match press conference after losing to Tony Drago in the quarter-finals of the Irish Open in December. After again falling victim to Drago in the second round of the Benson and Hedges Masters yesterday, Hendry managed six words, but, if anything, his mood was even blacker.

After a 6-4 defeat in a tournament that he has won six times since 1989, Hendry was asked if his latest setback was depressing. "I'm getting used to it," he said, but the Scot is clearly finding it difficult to come to terms with his present ineffectiveness.

Hendry, who between 1989 and 1994 prevailed in 23 consecutive matches at the Masters, had not previously failed to negotiate his opening engagement.

In contrast, Drago, who trailed Hendry 12-0 in career meetings before eliminating him from the German Masters and Irish Open this season, had lost on all four of his appearances at Wembley.

Shaky from the outset, Hendry trailed 3-0 but, when he won four of the next five frames to draw level at 4-4, Drago appeared destined to collapse, as he has done so often on important occasions.

Instead, the Maltese, unpredictable and naturally talented in equal measure, accounted for what proved to be the closing two frames in only 12 minutes, with breaks of 121 and 116. Drago, who had also constructed a 113 clearance in the second frame, plays John Parrott or Anthony Hamilton in the quarter-finals.

"Considering where I was and who I was playing, this has to be my greatest performance," Drago, a professional since 1985, said. "I've played all over the world but this is the only venue that makes me feel nervous a week before the tournament starts.

"Stephen obviously isn't playing all that well but this says a lot about my character. I don't care if he's wearing a blindfold. To beat him three times on the trot and to beat him at the Masters is an achievement."

Hendry has not won a title on British soil since the International Open of February 1997. The problem is simple enough to diagnose: a chronic shortage of confidence.

Hendry: ineffective

SPORT IN BRIEF

■ **OLYMPICS:** Eight members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) will be named for receiving hospitality "beyond necessary levels" when Nagano's report is published into how the city secured the 1998 Winter Games, a Japanese official said yesterday (John Goodbody writes).

Yushiro Yagi, the Japanese Olympic Committee's secretary general, said that three of the eight were likely to be the focus of IOC attention but declined to name either the individuals or their nationalities. The report is due to be sent to the IOC headquarters in Lausanne by Monday.

■ **BOXING:** Herbie Hide has withdrawn from his defence of the World Boxing Organisation heavyweight title against Orlin Norris, of the United States, in Newcastle on Saturday. Hide is suffering from a skin allergy. It is the second time the fight has fallen through, with Norris pulling out of scheduled bouts last year because of knee injuries.

■ **BADMINTON:** Darren Hall extended his record to ten men's singles titles at the Liverpool Victoria national championships at Haywards Heath in Sussex, beating Colin Haughton, the England No 2 from Manchester, 6-15, 15-7, 15-5 in a repeat of last year's final. Julia Mann, the England No 1, beat Tracey Hallam 11-2, 11-2 to secure her third women's title in succession.

■ **CYCLING:** Festina and TVM, who were entangled in the 1998 Tour de France doping scandal, are eligible for the race this year, organisers said yesterday.

■ **FOOTBALL:** Dulwich College, the holders, shared the trophy with Tonbridge in the Independent Schools Lent terms six-a-side competition on Sunday. The final finished 1-1 after extra-time.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 43

PACU

(b) A large, vegetarian, freshwater fish from northern parts of South America.

REINE CLAUDE

(a) The eponym of a type of greengage. Perhaps from the name of Claude (1499-1524), daughter of Louis XII.

OBI

(c) In Nigeria, a native hut. "Where do you sleep with your wife, in your obi or in her own hut?" asked the medicine-man."

RYO

(c) A former Japanese monetary unit. "I will kill anyone or accept a mission of the sword for five hundred ryo."

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE

1 Qxh8+! Bxh8 ... 2 Rxg7+ Kg8 ... 3 Nh6 checkmate

TELEVISION CHOICE

The original X files

Station X
Channel 4, 9.00pm

What a satisfying series this has been, including Howard Davidson's accompanying music which, unobtrusively, can make the hair on the back of the neck stand on end. This last of four documentaries about the role of Bletchley Park in winning the Second World War — its code-breakers having already cracked the Enigma variations in the German Air Force and Navy — shows how the world's first computer, known for obvious reasons as Colossus, was able, by 1944, to foretell the position of all Germany's 62 divisions. That led to D-Day and the beginning of the end. It is arguable that Station X shortened the war by two years and saved millions of lives. Yet until this series very little indeed was known about the place.

Great Railway Journeys
BBC2, 9.25pm

The final journey in this delightful series is a little different in that the traveller is not British, not a journalist, television celebrity or politician, and not white. Enter the Hollywood actor Danny Glover, whose chosen beat is the oldest railway in Africa — through Senegal into Mali's Dogon country on the Bamako Express. Glover, recently appointed the first Goodwill Ambassador to the United Nations Development Programme, begins with a visit to the notorious House of Slaves on Goree Island where he imagines his ancestors may have awaited their own bitter journey to America. But the mood picks up with a side trip to Youssou N'Dour's recording studio in Dakar to sample the latest West African music.

Vicious Circle
BBC1, 10pm (Scotland 10.30pm)

Movie buffs may feel they have been here before, — a recent film about "The General" won awards and must be fresh in the memory. The General in this Northern Ireland production, written by Kieran Prendiville, is still the same real character: Martin Cahill, the one-time Mr Big of the Dublin underworld. This is a hard-edged, murky tale, not without humour, of how Cahill (Ken Stott, cast against the grain) outwitted not only the Irish Garda and their undercover police, but the IRA who seem to have resented the success of his (non-political) operations. Stott wears the familiar trademark of an anorak to blot out half his face and, again like Cahill, is kind to children and his own racing pigeons. He is also demonstrably and irrationally cruel. The high point of this complicated thriller is the General's brilliantly orchestrated heist of famous paintings from the Beit Collection at Russborough House, Co Wicklow.

Ken Stott as the Irish criminal Martin Cahill in Vicious Circle (BBC1, times vary)

Children of the Sewers
ITV, times vary

Desmond Wilcox's first film on the street children of Bogotá in Colombia — The Lost Children — was shown on the BBC in 1991 and prompted an impressive response and the founding of a charity, Children of the Andes. Linchpin of the film was Jaime Jaramillo, a wealthy businessman who had set up safe housing for children who had taken refuge in the sewers. For his pains he received death threats and some of his orphans were actually shot at. In this new film the head of Colombian Child Welfare admits that there are still some 30,000 kids on the streets and in sewers. "There's more drug abuse, more sexual exploitation . . ." But this update reports on considerable success among the Jaramillo charges as they enter adulthood and we do hear that, on balance, eight years on, some things have changed for the better. But sadly, not enough . . . **Elizabeth Cowley**

RADIO CHOICE

Afternoon Play: On the Rob
Radio 4, 2.15pm

"I have reason to believe that you have several items in your bag which have not been paid for." Those are the chill words of a store detective in this drama-documentary by Rachel Bentham and the detective's cold formality helps to give this 45 minutes a sense of authenticity that is not diminished by the fact that the case histories have been fictionalised. Anna Massey plays Gillian, one of the shoplifters, a sixtysomething middle-class widow with a rich fantasy life that is portrayed in neat counterpoint to the humdrum realities of stealing. Motivation? Excitement, rebellion, need. One shoplifter says: "It was a dark period and I got a tremendous kick out of it, laced with a bit of unease . . . which I glossed over, I pushed that one away."

File on 4
Radio 4, 8.00pm

The investigative programme turns its attention to the Labour Government's pledges on animals, in particular their use in experimentation. Labour came to power promising a new life for animals and produced a detailed catalogue of proposals that would ban the use of animals in many experiments and reduce the level of suffering in others. Animal rights campaigners claim that very little has actually happened, in spite of the recent ban on the use of animals for cosmetic research, which apparently accounts for fewer than one in every thousand experiments. There is of course another side to the coin and researchers increasingly complain about being hampered by government restrictions on animal experiments. **Peter Barnard**

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30am Zoe Ball **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00pm** Kevin Greening **2.00** Mark Radcliffe **4.00** Chris Moyles **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Dave Pearce. Chart hits **8.00** Steve Lamacq: The Evening Session. Session tracks from Sebadoh and Stoke **10.00** Digital Update **10.10** John Peel. John Woodbine in session **12.00am** The Breezeblock **2.00** Clive Warren **4.00** Scott Mills

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Alex Lester **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Richard Allinson **12.00pm** Jimmy Young **2.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** Johnnie Walker **7.00** Alan Freeman: Their Greatest Bits **8.00** Nigel Ogden **9.00** A Brief History. Honor Blackman looks at the various styles of knickers through the ages **10.00** Susan Jeffreys Says Make It a Double (6/6) **10.30** Nicky Horne **12.00am** Katrina Leskanich **3.00** Mo Dutta

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** Breakfast **9.00** Nicky Campbell **12.00pm** The Midday News with Annie Webster **1.00** Ruscoe and Co **4.00** Drive **7.00** News Extra **7.30** The Tuesday Match, England v France. Coverage of tonight's under-21 international **10.00** Late Night Live with Nick Robinson **1.00am** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am The Big Boys Breakfast **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00pm** My Favourite Year **1.00** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Peter Deeley **5.00** The SportZone **7.00** Eubank's People **8.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins and the Creatures of the Night

VIRGIN

6.30am Chris Evans **9.30** Mark Forrest **1.00pm** Nick Abbot **4.00** Harriet Scott **6.45** Peter and Geoff **10.00** James Merritt **1.00am** Steve Power **4.30** Richard Allen

BBC WORLD SERVICE

5.00am The World Today **7.00** World News **7.15** Outlook **7.55** My Century **8.00** World News **8.05** Performance **8.20** Off the Shelf: Boyhood **8.35** Discovery **9.00** World News **9.05** The Moonstone **9.20** Inspiration! **9.50** Sports Round-Up **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** Britain Today **10.45** Good Books **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Omnibus **12.00pm** World News **12.05** Outlook **12.45** Sports Round-Up **1.00** Newshour **2.00** World News **2.05** Discovery **2.30** On Screen **3.00** World News **3.05** Sports Round-Up **3.15** Westway **3.30** Everywoman **4.00** World News **4.15** Insight **4.30** Megamix **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business R eport **5.45** Sports Round-Up **6.00** World News **6.15** Britain Today **6.30** Omnibus **7.00** World News **7.05** Discovery **7.30** Science Feedback **7.45** Off the Shelf: Boyhood **8.00** Newshour **9.00** World News **9.05** World Business Report **9.20** Britain Today **9.30** Meridian Live **10.00** World News **10.15** Sports Round-Up **10.30** Megamix **11.00** World News **11.05** Outlook **11.45** Insight **12.00am** The World Today **12.30** Discovery **12.55** My Century **1.00** The World Today **1.30** On Screen **2.00** The World Today **2.30** Women Who Dated To Speak **3.00** The World Today **3.20** Sports Round-Up **3.30** World Business Report **3.45** Insight **4.00** The Worl d Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey's Easier Breakfast. Soothing music and information updates **8.00** Henry Kelly. The Hall of Fame Hour and Record of the Week **12.00pm** Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones introduces a selection of listeners' favourite pieces of music **2.00** Concerto. Rodrigo (Concerto Serenade for Harp and Orchestra) **3.00** Jamie Crick. Includes information updates, Continuous Classics and Afternoon Romance **6.30** Newsnight. Sport, finance and news updates, with John Brunning **7.00** Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces classical sounds **9.00** Evening Concert. Machaut (Messe de Notre Dame), Liszt (St Francois de Paule Marchant sur les Flots); Part (The Beatitudes); Ravel (Daphnis and Chloe) **11.00** Mann at Night. Music and conversation through the small hours with Alan Mann **2.00am** Concerto. Rodrigo (Concerto Serenade for Harp and Orchestra) (r) **3.00** Mark Griffiths. The Early Breakfast Show

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air with Petroc Trelawny Mozart (An Chloe); Strauss (Horn Concerto No 1)
9.00 Masterworks with Penny Gore. Includes Suppe (Overture: Poet and Peasant), Mozart (Violin Sonata in G, K301), Handel (Che Piu so Tarda)
10.30 Artist of the Week: Leonard Slatkin
11.00 Sound Stories: Five Femmes Fatales Peggy Reynolds tells the story of Mata Hari
12.00pm Composer of the Week: Telemann
1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert Live from Broadcasting House, Belfast. Stephen Coombs and Jonathan Plowright, piano
2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Symphony Orchestra under Mark Elder and Pierre Boulez, BBC Symphony Chorus. Prokofiev (Dreams); Shostakovich (Symphony No 2, To October). Prokofiev (Cantata for the Twentieth Anniversary of the October Revolution)
4.00 Voices with Iain Burnside (r)
4.45 Music Machine with Verity Sharp
5.00 In Tune Sean Rafferty is joined by Philip Pickett and Edward de Souza
7.45 Performance on 3 (Sounding the Century) Live from the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London. ASMF under Iona Brown, violin. Bartok (Divertimento); Britten (Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge).
8.40 Book of the Month. An extended review of one of the month's most interesting new publications **9.00** Concert, part two. Tippett (Little Music); Strauss (Metamorphosen)
9.55 Postscript: Magnum at the Millennium A look at half a century of war photography (2/5) (r)
10.20 Pollini Plays Chopin Maurizio Pollini, piano. Chopin (Barcarolle in F sharp, Op 60); Polonaise in F sharp minor, Op 44)
10.45 Night Waves Richard Coles and guests discuss Umberto Eco's Serendipities, a new book exploring lunatic theories behind history
11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn Shipton presents the second part of Keith Smith's Hefty Jazz with Kate McNab
12.00am Composer of the Week: Liszt (r)
1.00 Through the Night with Donald Macleod. **1.00** Bavarian RSO under Riccardo Muti. Andrea Rost and Luciano D'Intino, sopranos, Paul Groves, tenor, Alastir Miles, bass, Bavarian RSO Chorus. Beethoven (Symphony No 1 in C); Rossini (Stabat Mater) **2.25** Robert de Visee (Suite in E minor) **3.00** Schools: Playtime **3.15** Time to Move **3.35** Let's Make a Story **3.50** Drama Workshop **4.10** In the News **4.30** Hop, Skip and Jump **4.45** Anns a' bhad **5.00** Beethoven (Piano Sonata in E flat, Op 31 No 3) **5.45** J C.F. Bach (Sinfonia in D minor)

RADIO 4

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast
5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day
5.47 Farming Today Presented by Anna Hill
6.00 Today with Sue MacGregor and James Naughtie
8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 No Triumph, No Tragedy Disabled achievers from America talk frankly with Peter White (6/6)
9.30 The New Recruit The debate surrounding the role of the midwife in the birthing process
9.45 (LW) Daily Service Director of music Ian Tracey
9.45 (FM) Serial: The Tulip Anna Pavord reads part two of her history of the popular flower (2/5)
10.00 Woman's Hour with Sheila McClennon
11.00 Nature Understanding a garden's ecology (r)
11.30 Coming Alive Terry's new-found love provokes a crisis of conscience
12.00pm (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.00 (FM) News 12.04 You and Yours Topical consumer news and investigations
1.00 The World at One with Nick Clarke
1.30 My Mistress Music Madame de Pompadour gained entry to the Court of Versailles by virtue of her singing talent. Lucie Skeaping, Michael Burden and David Parrott unravel the story (2/5)
2.00 The Archers (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: On the Rob Rachel Bentham's dramatisation of the real-life tales of four former shoplifters, starring Anna Massey and John Telfer. See Choice
3.00 The Exchange 0870 010 0444 Eddie Mair assesses listeners' opinions of a topical issue
3.30 Going, Going, Gone Farmers in Aberdeenshire hope for a good price for their cattle at the Inverurie livestock auction (2/5) (r)
3.45 This Sceptred Isle Anna Massey narrates part 27 of the history of Britain
4.00 The Learning Curve The Times columnist Libby Purves presents the education guide
4.30 Shop Talk Business matters, presented by Heather Payton
5.00 PM with Clare English and Chris Lowe
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 The Cheese Shop Presents: The Butter Factor Comedy sketches
7.00 The Archers William has a day to remember
7.15 Front Row John Wilson takes in the week's arts news and considers this year's Oscar nominations
7.45 Speaking for Themselves: The Personal Letters of Winston and Clementine Churchill Starring Alex Jennings Broadcast earlier as part of Woman's Hour (r)
8.00 File on 4 Julian O'Halloran reveals the disturbing facts behind the vivisection business. See Choice
8.40 In Touch Peter White with news for visually impaired people
9.00 Behind the Brain Geoff Watts investigates the race to solve the greatest mystery in the science of the mind — human consciousness (2/4)
9.30 No Triumph, No Tragedy (r)
10.00 The World Tonight Presented by Justin Webb
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Mark Twain Stories Kelsey Grammer reads Twain's satire, The Facts in the Great Beef Contract (r)
11.00 Late Night on 4: Angus Deayton's History of Alternative Comedy Review of the alternative comedy scene, featuring interviews and performances by Tracey Ullman, Ben Elton and French and Saunders (2/4)
11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament Update from Westminster
11.30 (FM) Talking Pictures Weekly guide to films and film-going, with Brian Sibley
12.00am News 12.30 The Late Book: Lemona's Tale Adjoa Andoh reads part three of Ken Saro-Wiwa's tale set in a Nigerian prison
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089.
Television and radio listings compiled by Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.



Mummy's boys and girls should be grateful

REVIEW


Joe Joseph

Nobody — some man once said — can misunderstand a boy like his own mother: though he was probably some mother's son himself, and therefore very likely biased. It was a view only partially borne out by Anne Parisio's film **Mummy's Boy** for Channel 4's *Cutting Edge*, an impressionistic portrait of three mothers who had close bonds with sons, all of whom all still lived at home with their mothers even though they worked and earned their salaries.

This is a situation many of us might find peculiar, but only because we are not Italian. In Italy men are still living with their mothers when they're 50: the men, that is, not the mothers.

Mummy's Boy was to have been the companion piece to *Daddy's Girl*, the documentary pulled from the schedules last year after Channel 4 learnt it had been hoaxed. A possessively close father-daughter relationship had, in fact, been cooked up for the cameras.

You feel a similar trick can't have been played on the makers of *Mummy's Boy* — but mostly because all three couples featured seem so unexceptional, even if one of the mothers *did* glory in the attention of the cameras. This was Ranna, who, unfeelingly, told us that she'd like Simeon, her 20-year-old son, to move out because, well, he's dull and he's uninspiring company.

Actually Ranna gets on Simeon's nerves as much as he gets on hers, which is a love of sorts. Her habit of vacuum-cleaning the house at 2am, which Ranna describes as "a compulsion ... some people have to have their nightcap, I have to Hoover".

Her libido's to blame. "The Hoover bit started when I was married. I'd gone off sex with my husband, and the only excuse I could think of for not getting into bed with him was that I had to Hoover." Oddly, there were no fathers in any of the three households featured: *nor were there any truly well-to-do mummy's boys.*

Mothers, for all their faults, at least have the bonus of being women. After watching **Snapshot: Helen Mirren** (BBC1), in which the actress criss-crossed South Africa on behalf of Oxfam meeting some of the thousands of women and children whose lives have been blighted by men's barbarity, you wondered if the world wouldn't be a better place if there were fewer men around. There are 30 murders a day in South Africa: thousands of rapes, muggings and car-jackings every week.

With 13 million firearms in the country, many children watch shootings as regularly as your children watch cartoons. Some 300 police officers are shot dead every year: combine this with their low wages, and it might explain why police don't rush in like fools into ganglands where even angels would fear to tread.

The bleakest moment of this tender and moving film detonated, like a landmine, when a smart, smiling schoolgirl — her name was Lydia — volunteered a story which she hadn't even told her classmates. It was the story of how, one night, the family car found itself driving past a gunfight between two men. Her father *stamped hard on the accelerator*. But once they were clear of the violence Lydia realised that her mother had been shot in the crossfire.

By the time they got to a hospital, her mother was dead, and Lydia was no longer a mummy's girl. Nor, soon after, even a daddy's girl. Unable to shoulder the burden — of what, grief? fatherhood? — her father subsequently abandoned Lydia and her two brothers.

But the film was honest enough to show smiling faces, too: faces of people who are persuading themselves that their luck *will* change, otherwise why bother going on? Just as Dr Johnson thought the most surprising thing about a woman's preaching was not that it wasn't done well, but that it was done at all, so the surprising thing about the process of peace and reconciliation in South Africa is not that it isn't going smoothly, but that — given the daunting odds *stacked against it — that there's* still any process there at all.

For those who feared she'd be a luvvie on the loose, Mirren turned out to be a discreet, thoughtful and compassionate guide. Leaving Lydia's schoolroom, she confessed: "The last thing I said to her was, Lydia, I promise things will get better for you. I *promise* you. That was all I could say. I don't know whether what I said was true or not."

You'd call what many South Africans lead "a dog's life" if it weren't that most abandoned dogs get better treatment than this. In **Animal Police** (BBC1), a new docusoap following a bunch of trainees hoping to make the grade as RSPCA officers, there was even a whole afternoon devoted just to the etiquette of inserting a thermometer up a calf's backside. "What you must never, ever do," said the farmer showing *the nervous rookies his little thermometer*, "is let go of *this*, because if the calf coughs, it shoots out; and if it takes a sharp intake of breath, it's going up in *there*!"

Tony Hart, 25, from Nottingham, was first up. He inserted the thermometer into the calf's rear as if threading a needle, gripping it firmly lest it get sucked in like a matchstick up a Hoover nozzle.

Later Tony was practising his public speaking in front of his fellow trainees, because officers are expected to talk about the RSPCA's work to schools and institutions. "My name is Inspector Hart," Tony began, "and I'm from the RSPCA. An inspector's job is very varied, but what do you think one of the most important things is?"

If any schoolboy guesses that it's "holding on tight to the thermometer", I'll eat my hat.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (37847)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (40248)
9.00 Kilroy (T) (8110373)
9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) (4526248)
10.55 News; Weather (T) (6681712)
11.00 Real Rooms (6608489)
11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (6678248)
11.55 News; Weather (T) (1851335)
12.00pm Call My Bluff (44915)
12.30 Wipeout (3510557)
12.55 The Weather Show (T) (48324199)
1.00 One O'Clock News (T) (43335)
1.30 Regional News; Weather (47046267)
1.40 Neighbours Joel pushes his luck with Sally (T) (25925422)
2.05 Live Snooker: Benson and Hedges Masters John Higgins takes on the Canadian Alain Robidoux for a place in the quarter-finals (3072083)
2.55 Body Spies Healthy pizzs (5326373)
3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (6249002) **3.45** The Enchanted Lands: The Adventures of the Wishing Chair (2133286) **3.55** Hububb (3273977) **4.10** Chipmunks Go to the Movies (3451712) **4.35** The Really Wild Show (5011267) **5.00** Newsround (2551335) **5.10** Grange Hill (6103977)
5.33 Rewind (T) (155539)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (477644)
6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (422)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (642)
7.00 Holiday Jill Dando checks out Rethymnon in Crete; Michael McNally heads for the Maldives; Sankha Guha goes skiing in Switzerland (T) (1809)
7.30 EastEnders Mary discovers a shocking *secret* (T) (286)


Victoria (Lisa Faulkner) saves a man's life with quick thinking (8pm)

8.00 Holby City An emergency forces Victoria to think on her feet to bring a patient back from the brink (T) (784644)
8.50 8.50 to Paddington Green Having successfully auditioned for the West End musical *Annie*, 12-year-old Dominique Moore eagerly awaits news of who will play the lead role (T) (611267)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News; Weather (T) (7828)
9.30 Workers at War New series. Salespeople trading in anything from computers to sexy knickers describe how they strive to achieve a specified level of attainment at work (1/4) (T) (59335)
10.00 CHOICE **Vicious Circle** Dramatisation based on actual events, starring Ken Stott as Dublin criminal Martin "The General" Cahill (T) (901002)
11.45 Death Dreams (TVM 1991) FILM A couple experience a series of supernatural events following their daughter's accidental drowning. Eerie thriller, starring Christopher Reeve. Directed by Martin Donovan (T) (631064)
1.15am Weather (5581381)
1.20 BBC News 24 (56485132)

BBC2

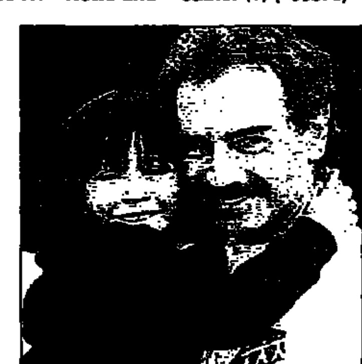
7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show: The Little Polar Bear (3377422) **7.05** Teletubbies (6295064) **7.30** Snorks (6074731) **7.55** Blue Peter (1471034) **8.20** Taz-Mania (7166712) **8.40** Polka Dot Shorts (3145460) **8.50** The Little Polar Bear (3141644) **9.00** German Globo (6226083) **9.05** Hallo aus Berlin (6225354) **9.10** Working It Out (7736511) **9.25** Techno (4955880) **9.45** Numbertime (1052557) **10.00** Teletubbies (20996) **10.30** Watch (2042151) **10.45** Teaching Today (569793) **11.15** Megamaths (5367642) **11.35** Words and Pictures (8751002) **11.50** History File (8738151) **12.10pm** English Express (9708880) **12.30** Working Lunch (60441) **1.00** Oakie Doke (94307489)
1.10 The Travel Hour (r) (9054151)
2.10 Wildlife on Two (r) (T) (61100460)
2.40 News; Weather (T) (3479538)
2.45 Westminster (T) (2919880)
3.25 News; Weather (T) (5800278)
3.30 Live Snooker: Benson and Hedges Masters More from John Higgins's clash with Alain Robidoux (487083)
6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air American teen comedy (r) (T) (313248)
6.25 The O Zone (T) (400248)
6.45 Live Snooker: Benson and Hedges Masters John Parrott takes on Anthony Hamilton (784083)
7.30 From the Edge Psychiatric support for *the deaf and how the press portray the* disabled (T) (828)
8.00 University Challenge Selwyn College, Cambridge v Leicester (T) (8199)
8.30 Rick Stein's Seafood Odyssey Rick casts his eye over a selection of tempting Thai and American dishes (T) (7606)
9.00 The Morecambe and Wise Show With the Beverley Sisters and Chris Barber's Jazz Band (r) (T) (690915)


Danny Glover mixes with the locals on his trip across Africa (9.25pm)

9.25 CHOICE **Great Railway Journeys** *Hollywood actor Danny Glover* travels across Africa along the continent's oldest railway line, the Bamako Express (T) (344170)
10.15 Coming Clean: The Truth About Housework *House-proud homeowners* (T) (606996)
10.28 Video Nation Shorts (T) (595441)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (162880)
11.15 Snooker: Benson and Hedges Masters (961373)
12.00am Despatch Box (24497)
12.30 BBC Learning Zone: Open University: Artware — Computers in the Arts **1.00** Hard Questions, Soft Answers **1.30** Making the News **2.00** Schools: Special Needs — Go for It **4.00** Languages: The French Experience 9-12 **5.00** Business and Training: Career Moves — Telecommunications **5.45** Open University: Taking Off **6.10** What's All This Fuss About IT?

HTV

5.30am ITN Morning News (40809)
6.00 GMTV (9530314)
9.25 Trisha (T) (5587199)
10.30 This Morning (T) (11684606)
12.15pm HTV News (T) (7253335)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (T) (64267)
1.00 Shortland Street (61731)
1.30 Home and Away Robert is on the loose (T) (63538)
2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (5905538)
2.45 Supermarket Sweep (T) (839064)
3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (1105660)
3.20 HTV News (T) (4355183)
3.25 CITV: Mopatop's Shop (1000016) **3.35** Rosie and Jim (3288809) **3.50** The Wombles (2125267) **4.00** Rupert (6324199) **4.25** Mike and Angelo (3441335) **4.50** How 2 (7735248)
5.10 A Country Practice (9343267)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News (T) (180985)
5.59 HTV Crimestoppers (305052)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (333002)
6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (T) (287460)
6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (689828)
6.30 WEST: The West Tonight (T) (170)
7.00 Emmerdale The vet's practice is thrown into turmoil (T) (6977)
7.30 WEST: West Eye View Richard Lyddon reports on the state of overcrowded Bristol Prison (354)
7.30 WALES: Fishlock's Wild Tracks The Vale of Clwyd (T) (354)
8.00 The Bill Garfield has to solve the mystery of a decapitated corpse fished from the River Thames (T) (4606)
9.00 Peak Practice First of a two-part episode. As David agonises over whether *to leave Clare for Patricia, a terrible* accident threatens to tear everyone's lives apart (6/13) (T) (7170)
10.00 News at Ten; Weather (T) (30712)
10.30 HTV News and Weather (T) (485373)


Jaime Jaramillo with five-year-old Sarita in Bogotá (10.40pm)

10.40 CHOICE **Children of the Sewers** Harrowing documentary about the plight of homeless children in Colombia (T) (294828)
11.40 WEST: Pleasure Guide Regional entertainment magazine (633118)
11.40 WALES: Anatomy of Disaster Forest and bush fires (323199)
12.10am Tales from the Crypt A murdered photographer returns from the dead. Teri Hatcher stars (r) (6045836)
12.40 The Haunted Fishtank Irreverent television review with Ed Hall (5713403)
1.10 Highlander (r) (8567958)
2.10 Planet Rock Profiles (1192836)
2.35 Wish You Were Here? (r) (T) (1578403)
3.00 Judge Judy (r) (T) (80370300)
3.25 Football Extra (r) (6034478)
4.20 Coach Luther considers investing in a tourist attraction (39673229)
4.45 Soundtrax (85285497)
5.00 ITV Nightscreen (99316)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: **12.20pm-12.30 Central News;** Weather (T) (8652267) **1.00 Headliners** (6/6) (r) (61731) **1.30 The Jerry Springer Show** (T) (1756828) **2.15-2.45 Home and Away** (T) (830793) **3.20-3.25 Central News** (T) (4355183) **5.10-5.40 Shortland Street** (9343267) **6.25-7.00 Central News;** Weather (T) (287460) **7.30-8.00 Landladies** (T) (354) **10.30-10.40 Central News;** Weather (T) (485373) **11.40-12.45 Renegade** (146712) **4.15am Central Jobfinder '99** (T) (2550372) **5.20-5.30 Asian Eye** (7498762)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: **12.15pm-12.27 Westcountry News;** Weather (T) (7253335) **12.27-12.30 Illuminations** (8660286) **1.00 Emmerdale** (r) (T) (61731) **1.30 The Jerry Springer Show** (T) (1756828) **2.15-2.45 Home and Away** (T) (830793) **3.20-3.25 Westcountry News;** Weather (T) (4355183) **5.08 Birthday People** (5438793) **5.10-5.40 Home and Away** (T) (9343267) **6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live** (T) (72286) **7.30-8.00 Wild West Country** (4/6) (T) (354) **10.30-10.40 Westcountry News;** Weather (T) (485373) **11.40-12.40 Anatomy of Disaster** (323199)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except: **12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News;** Weather (7253335) **5.10-5.40 Home and Away** (T) (9343267) **6.00 Meridian Tonight** (T) (118) **6.30-7.00 Surprise Chefs** (4/10) (170) **7.30-8.00 Wildlife SOS** (354) **10.30-10.40 Meridian News;** Weather (T) (485373) **11.40 Cyber Cafe** (633118) **12.10am-12.40 Hope and Gloria** (6045836) **5.00-5.30 Freescreen** (T) (99316)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except: **12.19pm Anglia Air Watch** (8664002) **12.20-12.30 Anglia News and Weather** (8652267) **5.10-5.40 Home and Away** (T) (9343267) **5.59 Anglia Weather** (T) (305052) **6.00 Anglia News** (T) (118) **6.30-7.00 About Anglia** (170) **7.30-8.00 Liza's Country** (4/8) (354) **10.29 Anglia Air Watch** (599267) **10.30-10.40 Anglia News and Weather** (T) (485373) **11.40 Go Fishing** (3/5) (r) (633118) **12.10am-12.40 Jenny** (6045836)

S4C

Starts **6.00am Sesame Street** (r) (47717996) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (34244460) **9.00 Ysgolion:** *Science in Focus* (93301625) **9.20 What the Papers Said** (43540625) **9.30 Eureka!** (94362731) **9.45 Eritrea** (94367286) **10.00 The Number Crew** (65854625) **10.10 TVM** (20795828) **10.25 How We Used to Live** (20774335) **10.45 Worlds of Faith** (83990151) **11.00 First Edition** (95629996) **11.15 Stage One** (95642847) **11.30 Powerhouse** (T) (40726441) **12.00pm Bewitched** (T) (29643354) **12.30 Sesame Street** (r) (T) (38281441) **1.00 Planed Plant** (T) (34254847) **1.30 20th Century Hall of Fame** (T) (37726151) **1.35 FILM: The Sheriff of Fractured Jaw** (80640828) **3.30 Collectors' Lot** (T) (81186625) **4.00 Fifteen-to-One** (T) (81198460) **4.30 Ricki Lake** (T) (81194644) **5.00 Planed Plant** (64675335) **5.30 Countdown** (T) (81185996) **6.00 Newyddion 6** (T) (54497118) **6.10 Heno** (T) (16363625) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (T) (64685199) **7.30 Newyddion** (T) (81195373) **8.00 Y Sioe Gelf** (T) (64604847) **8.30 Pengelli** (T) (64683354) **9.00 Station X** (4/4) (T) (37969557) **10.00 Brookside** (T) (60385064) **10.35 Boyz Unlimited** (1/6) (T) (56792002) **11.05 Riddle of the Skies** (2/3) (T) (90923996) **12.05am FILM: What's Love Got to Do With It** (T) (92150958) **2.15 Diwedd 4.00 Ysgolion**

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (20557)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (66286)
9.00 Schools: Science in Focus (4961441) **9.20** What the Papers Said (6222267) **9.30** Eureka (1042170) **9.45** Stop, Look, Listen (1047625) **10.00** The Number Crew (6583335) **10.10** TVM (9207118) **10.25** How We Used to Live (9286625) **10.45** Worlds of Faith (2065002) **11.00** First Edition IV (8322335) **11.15** Stage One (T) (8345286)
11.30 Powerhouse (T) (4731)
12.00pm Sesame Street (T) (37625)
12.30 Bewitched (r) (T) (62809)
1.00 Pet Rescue (T) (69373)
1.30 The Millennial Miniatures (90686199)
1.35 Travelog Treks Venice (r) (47052828)
1.50 Springfield Rifle (1952) FILM *A Union officer* attempts to infiltrate the Confederate forces to discover who is arming them. Starring Gary Cooper. Directed by Andre de Toth (T) (46620996)
3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (248)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (593)
4.30 Countdown (T) (5005606)
4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (3669809)
5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (847)
6.00 Dishes *Dating show* (r) (T) (460)
6.30 Home Improvement (T) (712)
7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (939606)
7.50 The Millennial Miniatures (T) (584354)
8.00 Brookside Nikki reveals the rapist's *identity* (T) (3267)
8.30 Classic Aircraft How developments in the field of fighter aircraft led to creation of the hugely successful Hurricane. Last in series (8/8) (T) (5002)
9.00 CHOICE **Station X** *Insight into how,* having broken the Enigma codes, the brains of Bletchley Park turned their attention to the enemy's more elaborate ciphers (4/4) (T) (5712)
10.00 Father Ted Jack breathes his last (6/6) (r) (T) (38354)
10.30 Father Ted The priests go on holiday (r) (T) (450557)
11.05 Short Stories Sheffield's most prolific graffiti writers take on the authorities in a long-running battle fought on the city's walls. Last in series (T) (838441)
11.35 Circus Days, Circus Night The future of the circus (886828)


Christopher Lee as the mysterious Lord Summerisle (12.40am)

12.40am The Wicker Man (1973) FILM Puritanical police officer Edward Woodward falls foul of a pagan cult on a remote Scottish island. Horror, with Christopher Lee. Directed by Robin Hardy (139749)
2.15 Lord of the Flies (1963) FILM Adaptation of William Golding's novel about a group of schoolboys who descend into savagery while marooned on a tropical island. Directed by Peter Brook (159316)
3.45 Two Minus One (r) (T) (19627294)
4.00 Schools: The English Programme (873294) **5.35** *Off Limits* (8267792)

CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport (6601606)
7.00 WideWorld Efforts to educate the women of Kerala in India (r) (T) (6076847)
7.30 Milkshake! (9892101)
7.35 Wimzie's House (r) (3221373)
8.00 Havakazoo (r) (4004847)
8.30 Dappledown Farm (r) (4003118)
9.00 Instant Gardens (r) (T) (4087170)
9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6174809)
10.20 Sunset Beach Emily is blinded while driving (T) (1174002)
11.10 Leeza (4583625)
12.00pm 5 News at Noon (T) (4074606)
12.30 Family Affairs Maria and Serge come to crisis point with Roy (r) (T). 5 News Update (9019880)
1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Lauren gives Grant a warning (T) (6075118)
1.30 The Roseanne Show Erik Estrada, star of cult US cop show *CHIPS*, joins the outlandish comedian for a chat; 5 News Update (9018151)
2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (5264880)
2.30 Good Afternoon Lifestyle magazine; 5 News Update (1817460)
3.30 Lucky Day (TVM 1991) FILM A mentally handicapped woman becomes the object of a custody battle between her caring sister and alcoholic mother after winning a fortune. With Amy Madigan. Directed by Donald Wrye (T) (9801422)
5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (T); 5 *News Update* (4546183)
6.00 100 Per Cent Computer-generated quiz (6421625)
6.30 Family Affairs Clive plans a feast (T) (6412977)
7.00 5 News; Weather (T) (5275996)
7.30 Malaysian Jungle Portrait of one of Malaysia's nosiest residents, the proboscis monkey (T). 5 News Update (6441489)
8.00 Volcano *The work of vulcanologists who* risk death in their study of one of the Earth's most dazzling phenomena, examining eruptions around the world from Colombia to Hawaii (r) (T); 5 News Update (1363118)
9.00 My Blue Heaven (1990) FILM A New York Mafia hood takes up residence in suburban California while awaiting a court date to testify against his former cronies, and proves quite a handful for the FBI man assigned to watch over him. Comedy caper, starring Steve Martin, Rick Moranis, Joan Cusack, Melanie Mayron and Carol Kane. Directed by Herbert Ross (T) (99738915)
10.50 Two *A hard-bitten police officer forces* Gus into becoming a pawn in his plan to bring down a notorious family of mobsters (9322828)
11.45 The Jack Docherty Show With The Divine Comedy (7987731)
12.25am Live and Dangerous Action from the AMA Supercross (11999010)
3.45 Asian Football Show Weekly round-up (3395497)
4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H An outbreak of trouble leads to a number of rooms being wrecked (3287010)
5.20 Russell Grant's Postcards The Tower of London (r) (39853584)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (9993636)

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● **For further listings see Saturday's *Vision***

SKY ONE

7.00am Count Duckula (56064) **7.30** The Chris Evans Breakfast Show (96083) **8.30** Hollywood Squares (89489) **9.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (76248) **10.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (94083) **11.00** Guilty! (14847) **12.00pm** Jenny Jones (71016) **1.00** Mad About You (85335) **1.30** Jeopardy (10460) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (72373) **3.00** Jenny Jones (12354) **4.00** Guilty! (31489) **5.00** Star Trek: Voyager (2170) **6.00** Guilty! (6002) **6.30** Dream Team (7354) **7.00** The Simpsons (5129) **7.30** The Simpsons (3638) **8.00** Rescue Medics (9847) **8.30** Coppers (8354) **9.00** World's Wildest Police Videos (62847) **10.00** Greece Uncovered (32606) **11.00** Dream Team (32118) **11.30** Star Trek: Voyager (71915) **12.30am** The Commish (67626) **1.30** Long Play (7055479)

SKY BOX OFFICE

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SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 26)
The Peacemaker (1997)
SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60)
The Ice Storm (1997)
SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59)
Trial and Error (1997)
The Devil's Advocate (1997)
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 55)
Fire Down Below (1997)

FILMFOUR

6.00pm Dead of Night (1945) (93105396) **7.45** The 20th Century Hall of Fame: Elvis Presley (9556625) **8.00 The Man without a Face (1993)** (2518151) **10.00 Nikita (1990)** (4154422) **12.30am Passion (1982)** (5426213) **1.30 The Waterdance (1992)** (3937859) **3.15 *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues* (1993)** (84281357) **6.00** Close

SKY PREMIER

6.00am Big (1988) (34453) **8.00 The Bomber Boys (1995)** (61267) **10.00 The Swan Princess: The Secret of the Castle (1997)** (20647) **12.00pm** The Directors: The Films of Robert Wise (90606) **1.00** Hollywood Buzz (71934) **2.00 Big (1988)** (54525) **4.00 The Bomber Boys (1995)** (5644) **6.00 The Swan Princess: The Secret of the Castle (1997)** (35578335) **7.45** The Oscar Nominations Show (842880) **8.00 Men in Black (1997)** (90341625) **9.45** The Oscar Nominations Show (984151) **10.00 Metro (1997)** (49985) **12.00am Entertaining Angels (1997)** (551479) **1.50 Empire Records (1995)** (3461010) **3.20 Vampires in Venice (1988)** (74281671)

SKY MOVIEMAX

5.05am Weekend Reunion (1990) (33204083) **7.00 The Way to Dusty Death (1995)** (40624) **9.00 Suddenly (1996)** (83489) **11.00 Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness on the Planet of the Apes (1974)** (43083) **1.00pm Two Much (1996)** (54977) **3.00 Suddenly (1996)** (75731) **5.00 The Way to Dusty Death (1995)** (76538) **7.00 Two Much (1996)** (91996) **9.00 Striking Poses (1997)** (47538) **11.00 Back in Business (1996)** (778996) **12.35am *Criminal Affairs* (1997)** (861316) **2.10 Antonia's Line (1995)** (376590) **3.55 Maximum Security (1996)** (7350497)

SKY CINEMA

4.00pm The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes (1939) (4499880) **5.30** Hollywood Hall of Fame: Gene Kelly (3456915) **6.00 Flying Tigers (1942)** (1120809) **8.00 Room at the Top (1958)** (1125354) **10.00** 100 Years, 100 Movies — War and Peace (4571903) **10.55 In Harm's Way (1965)** (72983538) ***1.40am Town on Trial* (1956)** (5154652) **3.20 The Rainbow (1988)** (49022942)

TNT

9.00pm Logan's Run (1976) (21566083) ***11.15* Guns for San Sebastian (1968)** (51178860) **1.30am Young Cassidy (1965)** (41842768) **3.30 The Alphabet Murders (1966)** (16056010) **5.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre **7.15** V-Max **7.45** Total Sport **8.15** You're On Sky Sports! **9.00** Racing News **9.30** Aerobics **10.00** Football League Review **11.00** Triathlon **12.00pm** Aerobics **12.30** Football Special **2.30** Spanish Football **4.30** World Windsurfing **5.00** Wrestling **6.00** Sports Centre **6.30** Sports Unlimited **7.30** Fastrax **8.00** Premier Snooker League **10.00** Sports Centre **10.15** You're On Sky Sports! **11.00** Inside Scottish Football **12.00am** Sports Centre **12.15** You're On Sky Sports! **1.00** Premier Snooker League **3.00** Fastrax **3.30** Sports Centre **3.45** Close

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics Oz Style **7.30** Sports Centre **7.45** Racing News **8.15** World Windsurfing **8.45** Sports Centre **9.00** Fish TV **10.00** Squash **11.00** V-Max **11.30** Max Power **12.30pm** Badminton **3.30** Snow Show **4.00** Diving **5.00** Inside Scottish Football **6.00** Live International Football **8.00** Live International Football **10.15** Fastrax **10.45** Sports Unlimited **11.45** Total Sport **12.15am** International Football **2.15** Inside Scottish Football **3.15** Sports Centre **3.30** Live International Cricket

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm World Wrestling Federation: Live Wire **1.00** Fish TV **2.00** Wonderful World of Golf **3.00** A to Z of Motor Sport **3.30** Squash **4.30** Total Sport **5.00** Triathlon **6.00** Fish TV **7.00** Badminton **10.00** Boxing Superbouts **11.00** Olympic Series: Road to Nagano **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT

7.30am Bobsleigh **8.15** Alpine Skiing **9.00** Extreme Sports **10.00** Live Women's Biathlon **12.00pm** *Football: Eurogoals* **1.30** Car on Ice **2.00** Women's Biathlon **3.30** Bobsleigh **4.30** Alpine Skiing **5.30** Live Alpine Skiing **6.30** Live Football **8.00** Alpine Skiing **8.30** Live Alpine Skiing **9.00** Live Football **10.00** Indoor Athletics **11.00** Luge **11.30** Extreme Sports **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Crossroads **7.30** Neighbours **7.55** EastEnders **8.30** The Bill **9.00** The Bill **9.30** When the Boat Comes In **10.30** Rhoda **11.00** Dallas **11.55** Neighbours **12.25pm** EastEnders **1.00** Juliet Bravo **2.00** Dallas **2.55** The Bill **3.25** The Bill **3.55** EastEnders **4.30** Rhoda **5.00** All Creatures Great and Small **6.00** Dynasty **7.00** 2point4 Children **7.40** Dad's Army **8.20** The Detectives **9.00** Red Dwarf IV **9.40** Red Dwarf IV **10.15** Red Dwarf IV **10.55** *Red Dwarf IV* **11.30** Red Dwarf IV **12.10am** Red Dwarf IV **12.45** The Bill **1.15** The Bill **1.45** Spender **2.45** Shopping with Screenshop

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am *Within These Walls* **7.00** *On the Buses* **7.30** Doctor in the House **8.00** Beadle's About **8.30** The Fosters **9.00** Classic Coronation Street **9.30** Emmerdale Farm **10.00** thirtysomething **11.00** Hawaii Five-O **12.00pm** Classic Coronation Street **12.30** Emmerdale Farm **1.00** Nearest and Dearest **1.30** Agony **2.00** thirtysomething **3.00** The Love Boat **4.00** The Saint **5.00** *Hawaii Five-O* **6.00** *Emmerdale Farm* **6.30** Classic Coronation Street **7.00** Mission: Impossible **8.00** The Love Boat **9.00** Classic Coronation Street **9.30** The Comedians **10.00** Jokers Wild **10.30** Hogan's Heroes **11.00** Men and Motors


Eddie Murphy stars as a San Francisco Police hostage negotiator in the fast-paced action thriller *Metro* (Sky Premier, 10pm)

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Bear in the Big Blue House **6.25** Classic Toons **6.35** Gummi Bears **7.00** Classic Toons **7.10** Aladdin **7.35** 101 Dalmatians **8.00** Goof Troop **8.25** Classic Toons **8.45** *New Adventures of Winnie the* Pooh **9.00** The Adventures of Spot **9.05** Animal Shelf **9.15** Pocket Dragons **9.30** Bear in the Big Blue House **9.55** The Toothbrush Family **10.00** Bite Size **10.10** Tots TV **10.30** The Big Garage **10.45** PB *and J Otter* **11.00** *Sesame Street* **12.00pm** The Adventures of Spot **12.05** Animal Shelf **12.15** Pocket Dragons **12.30** Bear in the Big Blue House **12.55** The Toothbrush Family **1.00** Bite Size **1.10** Tots TV **1.30** The Big Garage **1.45** PB and J Otter **2.00** New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh **2.30** Quack Pack **3.00** The Little Mermaid **3.30** Art Attack **4.00** 101 Dalmatians **4.30** Hercules *The TV Show* **5.00** *Recess* **5.15** *Pepper Ann* **5.30** Smart Guy **6.00** Teen Angel **6.30** Boy Meets World **7.00** Honey I Shrunk the Kids: The TV Show **7.50** Classic Toons **8.00** **FILM: Echo of Thunder (1998)** **9.35** Home Improvement **10.00** Dinosaurs **10.30** The Wonder Years **11.00** Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman **12.00am** Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Power Rangers Turbo **6.30** Power Rangers Turbo **7.00** Mortal Kombat **7.25** *Oggy and the Cockroaches* **7.30** *Donkey* Kong Country **8.00** Goosebumps **8.25** Sam and Max **8.35** Spiderman **9.00** X-Men **9.25** Fantastic Four **9.50** The Incredible Hulk **10.05** Casper **10.30** Oggy and the Cockroaches **10.55** The Mouse and the *Monster* **11.05** Eek!Stravaganza **11.30** Life with Louie **11.55** Home to Rent **12.05pm** Sam and Max **12.30** Donkey Kong Country **1.00** Mowgli: The New Adventures of Jungle Book **1.25** Ace Ventura **1.50** Spiderman **2.15** X-Men **2.40** Fantastic Four **3.05** The Incredible Hulk **3.30** Roy and Lisa's Big Ride **3.35** Mortal Kombat **4.00** Spider-man **4.25** Mowgli: New Adventures of Jungle Book **4.50** Home to Rent **5.00** Goosebumps **5.25** Eerie Indiana: The Other Dimension **5.50** Oggy and the Cockroaches **5.55** Donkey Kong Country **6.25** Sam and Max **6.50** Eek!Stravaganza **7.00** Close

NICKELODEON

6.00am Muppet Babies **6.30** Rocko's Modern Life **7.00** CatDog **7.30** Rugrats **8.00** The Wild Thornberrys **8.30** Arthur **9.00** Children's BBC **10.00** Wimzie's House **10.30** Babar **11.00** The Magic School Bus **11.30** PB Bear/Budgie the Little Helicopter/Animal Antics/Family Ness **12.00pm** Rugrats **12.30** Blue's Clues **1.00** Bananas in Pyjamas **1.30** Little Bear Stories **2.00** Clangers/King Rollo/Wombles/Bod **2.30** Children's BBC **3.00** Children's BBC **3.30** Pippi Longstocking **4.00** Hey Arnold! **4.30** Rugrats **5.00** Sister Sister **5.30** Kenan and Kel **6.00** Sabrina the Teenage Witch **6.30** Driven Crazy **7.00** Close

BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team **9.00** L A P D **9.30** *Cops* **10.00** *Extreme Championship* Wrestling **10.30** Erotic Series **11.00** **FILM: Rocky IV (1985)** **1.00am** Sex Bytes **1.35** Erotic Series **2.05** Extreme Championship Wrestling **2.35** Cops **3.05** **FILM: Frankenhooker (1990)** **5.00** L A P D **5.30** Bushido **6.00** Close

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Jenny **7.30** Grace Under Fire **8.00** Ellen **8.30** NewsRadio **9.00** Drop the Dead Donkey **9.30** Whose Line is it Anyway? **10.00** Frasier **10.30** Cheers **11.00** Seinfeld **11.30** The Larry Sanders Show **12.00am** Late Night with David Letterman **1.00** Taxi **1.30** The Critic **2.00** Dr Katz **2.30** Tibs and Fibs **3.00** Nightstand **3.30** Abbott and Costello **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: 8pm-MIDNIGHT ONLY

7.30am Bloomberg Information Television **8.00** Sightings **9.00** Buck Rogers in the 25th Century **10.00** Quantum Leap **11.00** Dark Shadows **11.30** New Alfred Hitchcock **12.00pm** The Twilight Zone **12.30** The Twilight Zone **1.00** Tales of the Unexpected **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected **2.00** Amazing Stories **2.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **3.00** Buck Rogers in the 25th Century **4.00** The Incredible Hulk **5.00** Sightings **6.00** Time Trax **7.00** Quantum Leap **8.00** V **9.00** Leo **10.00** **FILM: Memory Run (1994)** **11.40** Sci-Focus Special **12.00am** Dark Skies **1.00** **FILM: The Wraith (1986)** **3.00** The Twilight Zone **3.30** Dark Shadows **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

6.00am Today's Gourmet **6.30** Graham Kerr **7.00** Room Service **7.30** The Painted House **8.00** Wedding Story **8.30** A Baby Story **9.00** Simply Painting **9.25** The Home and Leisure House **9.30** The Great Garden Game **10.00** Real Gardens **10.30** Cookabout with Greg and Max **11.00** Two's Country Get Stuck In **11.30** Rex Hunt Fishing Adventures **12.00pm** Our House Down Under **12.30** Antiques Trail **1.00** Our House **1.30** Hometime **2.00** New Yankee Workshop **2.30** Home Again with Bob Vila **3.00** This Old House with Steve and Norm **3.30** Go Fishing

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt Specials **4.30** Walker's World **5.00** Wheel Nuts **5.30** History's Turning Points **6.00** Animal Doctor **6.30** Adventures of the Quest **7.30** The Elegant Solution **8.00** Great Escapes **8.30** Survivor **9.00** Trailblazers **10.00** War and Civilisation **11.00** Code Red **12.00am** Lives of Fire: Consumed by Fire **1.00** History's Turning Points **1.30** Wheel Nuts **2.00** Close

ANIMAL PLANET

12.00pm Going Wild with Jeff Corwin **12.30** Wild at Heart: Dolphins of Kaikoura Bay **1.00** Nature Watch with Julian Pettifer **1.30** Crocodile Hunter **2.00** Breed All About It: Old English Sheep Dogs **2.30** *Human Nature* **3.30** *Harry's Practice* **4.00** Jack Hanna's Zoo Life **4.30** Animal Doctor **5.00** Pet Rescue **5.30** Crocodile Hunter **6.00** The New Adventures of Black Beauty **6.30** Lassie **7.00** Rediscovery of the World: New Zealand **8.00** Animal Doctor **8.30** *Totally Australia* **9.30** *Emergency Vets* **10.00** The Last Paradises **10.30** Animal Detectives **11.00** All-Bird TV **11.30** Emergency Vets **12.00am** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm *Alien Advocates* **7.30** Cairo Unveiled **8.00** Human Nature: Family **9.00** Natural Born Killers: Royal Blood **10.00** The Amazing World of Mini Beasts: A Saga of Survival **11.00** Island Eaten by Rats **11.30** Give Sharks a Chance **12.00am** The Shark Files: Shark Attack Files

HISTORY

4.00pm The World at War: Remember **5.00** Destroyers **6.00** Legends of the Arabian Nights **7.00** Biography: Casanova

CARLTON FOOD

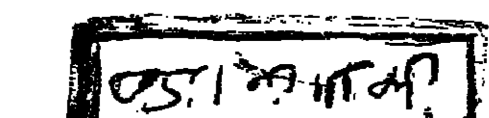
8.00am Food Network Daily **9.30** Taste of England **10.00** The Green Gourmet **10.30** Alive and Cooking **11.00** What's Cooking? **11.30** Coron's Kitchen College **12.00pm** Food Network Daily **12.30** Surprise Chefs **1.00** Taste of England **1.30** Thoroughly Modern Brush **2.00** Chez Bruno **2.30** Food Network Daily **3.00** Winter Nosh **3.30** Kitchen College **4.00** Rustie's Real Cooks **4.30** Lunch with Ed Baines **5.00** Close

LIVING

6.00am Tiny and Crew **6.20** Johnson and Friends **6.30** Philbert the Frog **6.40** Tiny Tales **6.45** Greedysaurus and the Gang **6.50** Polka Dot Shorts **7.00** Practical Parenting **7.05** Professor Bubble **7.30** Caillou **7.35** Bug Alert **7.55** Practical Parenting **8.00** Barney and Friends **8.25** Babaloos **8.30** Caillou **8.35** Tiny and Crew **8.50** Practical Parenting **9.00** Can't Cook, Won't Cook **9.30** The Roseanne Show **10.00** The Jerry Springer Show **10.50** Maury Povich **11.40** Brookside **12.10pm** Animal Rescue **12.40** Rescue 911 **1.10** Special Babies **1.40** Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction **2.10** LA Law **3.10** Living Room **4.00** Michael Cole **4.50** Ro Kinda **5.40** Ready, Steady, Cook **6.15** The Jerry Springer Show **7.05** Rescue 911 **7.35** Animal Rescue **8.10** Maury Povich **9.00** **FILM: Colour Me Perfect (1996)** **11.30** The Sex Zone **12.00am** Close

ZEE TV

5.00am Punjabi Folk Songs **5.30** Music Time **6.00** Aap ki Farmaish **6.30** Ultha Uthap Show **7.00** Faith **7.30** Daily News **8.00** Out and About **8.30** Salaab **9.00** Himalaya's **10.00** *Dhoop Mein Sawan* **11.00** Khana Khazana **11.30** Parampara **12.00pm FILM: Bengali Movie: Slogan** **3.00** Zee Bangla **3.30** Cine Magic **4.00** Campus **4.30** Zee Top 10 **5.30** Aashirwad **6.00** 1-10 **6.30** Humm Tara Sum **7.00** Jee Sahab **7.30** Chale Cinema **8.00** News **8.30** Daraar **9.00** Do Aur Do Paanch **9.30** Zanjeeran **10.00** Hadd Kar Di **10.30** X Zone **11.30** London Ke Rang **12.00am** News **12.30** Pakistan Business Week **1.00** Zee Bangla **1.30** Raahat **2.00** **FILM: Urdu Movie: Parda Na Uthao** **4.30** Lolly-Pop



هكذا من الاصل

TENNIS 46
Rusedski finds his range in search for ranking points

SPORT

MOTOR RACING 44
Mosley unmoved by opposition to new safety rules



TUESDAY FEBRUARY 9 1999

England players respond positively to relaxed new regime

Wilkinson finds approval

IN ONE respect, and one respect only, Howard Wilkinson began yesterday where Glenn Hoddle had left off as the England coach. The caretaker embarked on his own quick flit into astral realms after his first session in charge of the squad at Bisham Abbey, but if flying through the heavens with Hoddle was like a green-gilled ride in a light aircraft, travelling with Wilkinson was more akin to sitting on the flight deck of a jumbo jet.

Suddenly, everything seems smooth and simple again. Suddenly, the England camp is not a place that oozes suspicion and discord. In all that he did and said and promised, Wilkinson made everybody feel as though they were waking from a bad dream. The players, whose self-belief has been drained, whose confidence in their previous coach had evaporated, felt it most keenly.

Tony Adams sat in his seat laughing because he had felt fit enough to train on the Monday after a Saturday game and because Gareth Southgate had made fun of him for it. He said he did not want to talk about his feelings towards Hoddle because it would only "open a can of worms". "Let's just leave it at the fact that I feel sorry for anyone who loses their job," he said.

Tottenham clear-out..........45
McClaren clocks on..........45

Across the room, Andy Cole smiled broadly, a symbol of the spirit of reconciliation and commonsense man-management that Wilkinson already seems to have brought to the table. Hoddle's public criticism of Cole had led to the Manchester United forward labelling him "a coward". Wilkinson promptly said that Cole would play some part against France at Wembley tomorrow night to rid him of his bitterness, "to seal the knot".

Wilkinson lapped it all up. He seems to be thoroughly enjoying his spell in the limelight after two years working in the shadows as the Football Association's technical director. He meandered a little but he did it with self-deprecation and humour, other characteristics that have recently become lost to the post. His excursion into space was met with laughter rather than dumbfounded amazement.

"People continually ask me what my plans are after Thursday and I look through my diary and can't see any spare time. In the past week or so I have sometimes felt in need of a 'beam-me-up Scottie' situation," he said when pressed about whether he had decided if he wanted to remain as the England coach after the match against the world champions. "It would be nice suddenly to get whisked away in a space capsule and spend some time spinning above the world," he said. "It all looks very nice from up there, but ultimately you have to return to reality and face up to what has to be done. At the moment, though, I can honestly say all my thoughts are tuned to the game and nothing else."

In terms of public relations, the weakest of Hoddle's many weak points, Wilkinson was an instant hit. He said, for instance, that he would name his team this afternoon rather than attempt to conceal it until the last minute, a futile ploy that had become an obsession with his predecessor. "I cannot see a single good reason not to do it," Wilkinson said.

He said that he had not been asked by the FA whether he would be willing to continue in the job until the crucial European championship qualifying match against Poland at Wembley on March 27, but it was clear nevertheless that he is planning for the long term. The game against France, he said, was of most value as a preparation for the Poland fixture.

"The players are not fools," he said. "They know what the Poland game means. If we lost to Poland, we would have to climb a glass mountain [to qualify]. I spoke to them about it when they arrived last night. It wasn't exactly Churchillian, but I tried to put the game into context and point out to them what they should be looking to get from the game against France.

"This will not be a game about sacrificing a result for a good performance. What we want is that the players go into the game against Poland believing they can win at Wembley because they have just done it against France. A victory against Poland would make that glass mountain more negotiable.

"My biggest problem is that I have not got my finger on the pulse as quickly as Glenn Hoddle would have done. I have had to make certain assumptions about those who I think have strong characters within the group and it is important that those characters are sure about the one or two things we are going to have to hang our hats on."

Those preparations have been disrupted by a spate of injuries, particularly to defenders, that resulted last night in the call-up of Lee Dixon. Dixon may be 34, he may have won his last cap under Graham Taylor in 1994, but his form this season has been outstanding and it is hard to argue with his selection.

If Gary Neville fails to recover from an ankle injury, Dixon will probably play in a flat back four that is likely to include his Arsenal colleagues, Adams and Martin Keown, as well as David Seaman in goal. Given that the Arsenal defence has not conceded a league goal for nine hours and 24 minutes, Wilkinson at least has firm foundations to build upon.

MARC ASPLAND



Under orders: Ferdinand, right, and Beckham listen intently as Wilkinson conducts his first England training session at Bisham Abbey yesterday



Clubbing together: Owen, Ince and Fowler, the Liverpool trio, hold a watching brief

Cole believes in law of percentages

Matt Dickinson talks to a striker desperate for a proper chance

Asked if he was glad that Glenn Hoddle was no longer the England coach, Andy Cole broke into a smile as wide as a goalmouth yesterday. "You may think that, I couldn't possibly comment," was one answer he appeared to be considering, but instead he chose to say nothing. Why waste words?

Of all the players who had reason to wish for Hoddle's departure — and there were a few — perhaps only Chris Sutton had more cause than the maligned Manchester United striker. Ignored by the former England coach and then insulted by him, Cole had sensibly relinquished all hope of winning another cap.

To the extent, even, that he thought "sod it" and called Hoddle a coward on the front page of *The Sun*. Bad public relations, perhaps, but at least it got the bile out of his system.

It was a massive irony, then, that among Hoddle's last acts as coach was to recall Cole for the match tomorrow against France, the world champions, seemingly convinced that the United player was indeed a striker of international calibre. Having won over Hoddle, now all Cole has to do is prove it to the rest of us.

"People forget that I haven't had much of a chance so far," he said, a reminder that he has made only two England appearances as a substitute, the last coming in Le Tournoi more than 18 months ago. "But I believe I can do it. If I get two chances at this level, I think I can take one. I can't afford to doubt myself any more."

And as he sat there, smiling and even joking in front of a press corps he normally regards as the enemy, the fair conclusion was that he at least deserves the chance. Howard Wilkinson, England's caretaker coach, evidently believes so, giving a strong hint that Cole, 27, would play at Wembley, probably coming off the bench.

"Everyone says I am sullen, dull, moody, but I am just a quiet chap," Cole said yesterday with conviction. "I'm not good at that PR stuff." You can be as quiet if you like if you are scoring goals, and Cole is now proving prolific. Revelling in his partnership with Dwight Yorke, he has a haul of 17 already this season and he has terrorised even the top-class defences of the Champions' League. If he can do it against Barcelona, why not France, appears to be his attitude.

"The way I like to look at it," he said, "I get a lot of chances and I can't take all of them that come my way. If I did, I would get 40 goals a season and that just isn't going to happen.

"The thing is that at United, you get more opportunities. I score my share and I miss my fair share." He seemed to hit the target when he launched his scathing outburst against Hoddle, who had claimed that Cole needed six chances for every goal. However justified, it was a damning verdict from an international manager whose job is to bolster the confidence of his players. Cole's anger was uncontained.



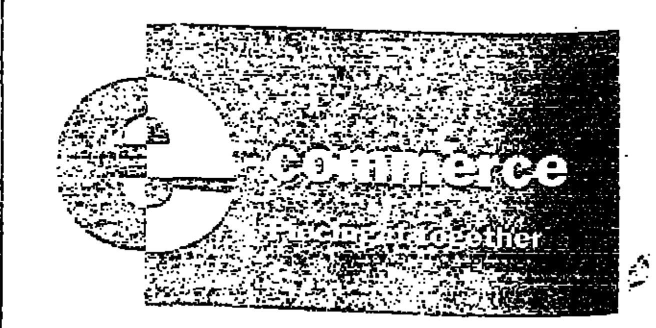
Cole: defends scoring rate

"I have no regrets," he said. "It just became too personal and I was hurt. I was left out for a long time and I never complained, but I just thought it was going too far. Most players have not had to put up with the sort of flak I have. I must admit, I thought that was it. I certainly did not expect to be in another squad as long as Hoddle was in charge." Proof, then, that there is life after footballing death.

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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 1636

ACROSS
- 6 Get-three-in-line gambling device (5,7)
- 7 Lowly (6)
- 8 One-room flat (6)
- 9 Fruit rind: a Prime Minister (4)
- 10 Charitable worker *(derog.)* (2-6)
- 12 Two-hour turn aboard (8)
- 16 Measure (of medicine) (4)
- 18 Road-surface curve (6)
- 20 Wet behind ears (6)
- 21 Unearthly: inexplicable (12)

DOWN
- 1 Pleated ruffle, flounce (8)
- 2 Listen carefully: be there (6)
- 3 Jumble, miscellany (6)
- 4 Paper punched out: Francophone country (4)
- 5 Lure (6)
- 6 Instrument: he plays Thisbe *(MND)* (5)
- 11 The Stars and Stripes (3,5)
- 13 Cloudy, impenetrable (6)
- 14 Crowd (6)
- 15 Underworld goddess: *the ace (anag.)* (6)
- 17 Dirty look (5)
- 19 A food: a complaint (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1635
ACROSS: 2 Push-over 6 Pauper 8 Intuit 9 Passage 10 Actor 12 Derogatory 16 Anticlimax 18 Ladle 20 Sundial 21 Tragic 22 Sermon 23 Hell-hole
DOWN: 1 Palaver 2 Pregnant 3 Hangar 4 Vaunt 5 Retard 7 Pastoral 11 Cylinder 13 Of course 14 Paragon 15 Clutch 17 Newish 19 Drawl

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Goram quick to deny links with terrorist organisation

By PHIL GORDON

THE maverick life of Andy Goram, the former Scotland goalkeeper, took another twist yesterday when the player denied allegations that he had links with terrorist groups in Northern Ireland. Goram, who is being considered for a return to the national squad just eight months after telling his country he would never play for them again, said that he intended to sue over the claims and was backed by Motherwell, the Scottish Premier League club, who insisted that he remains a player with them.

Goram appeared at a hurriedly-convened press conference yesterday after stories in the Scottish press claimed that he consorted with sympathisers of the banned Loyalist paramilitary group, the Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF). He was pictured holding aloft a UVF flag, but he read out a statement, saying: "I categorically deny that I have links with any sectarian group or terrorists. I do not condone violence and I wholeheartedly support the peace process in Northern Ireland. I deny the allegations and I will be taking legal action against the newspapers and the individuals who supplied them with this incorrect information."



Goram: intends to sue

Goram, 34, who has 42 caps, only joined Motherwell last month, after a seven-year career at Rangers. John Boyle, the Motherwell chairman, said: "Motherwell is a family club and, as individuals, or as a club, we take no part in sectarianism. We have spoken to Andy and he assures us he has been seriously maligned and misrepresented. He remains a Motherwell player."

However, the episode now casts doubt on Goram's proposed meeting with Craig Brown, the Scotland coach, later this week. Brown had been interested in seeing Goram return to international football, despite the player's decision to walk out on Scotland just two weeks before the World Cup Finals last June.

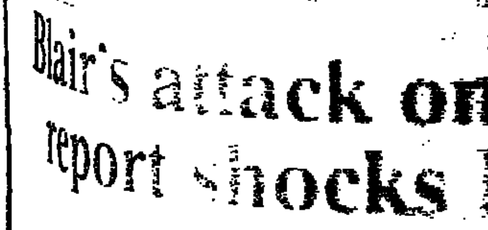
Goram also turned his back on Scotland in 1995, before a European Championship tie with Greece, claiming he was not psychologically able to play. In 1994, he was dropped by Rangers for the Scottish Cup Final, and placed on the transfer list, when he failed to return from a rehabilitation trip to Tenerife in time to join his team's preparations.

☐ A near-capacity crowd of 30,000 will be at Derby County's Pride Park ground tonight, intrigued by the chance to watch England's talented Under-21 team, and a couple of France's World Cup-winners (Stephen Wood writes).

Thierry Henry, of Juventus, and David Trezeguet, of Monaco, are expected to form the visitors' attack while Lee Bowyer, of Leeds United, is recalled to the England set-up as the one over-age player, eight months after he fell out with Peter Taylor, the England Under-21 manager. Bowyer was picked to play in the Toulon tournament, but instead opted to go on holiday.

ENGLAND (possible 3-5-2): S Simonsen — M Upson, J Carragher, G Barry — J Curtis, F Lampard, L Bowyer, L Hendrie, M Bell — M Jansen, J Beattie

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